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A REPORT

OF THE

RECORD COMMISSIONERS

OF THE

CITY OF BOSTON,

CONTAINING THE

BOSTON TOWN RECORDS, 1742 TO 1757.

BOSTON:
ROCKWELL AND CHURCHILL, CITY PRINTERS,
No. 39 ARCH STREET.
1885.

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CITY OF BOSTON.

A REPORT

OF THE

RECORD COMMISSIONERS.

The present report, the fourteenth in number, is a continuation of the Town Records, and is continuous with the Twelfth Report. The entries cover the period from March 14, 1742–3, through November 1, 1757, comprising the third and fourth of the manuscript volumes.

The Tenth Report is still in the press, but will appear in a few months.

The Fifteenth Report will continue the Selectmen's Records, and a portion is already in type.

WILLIAM H. WHITMORE,
WILLIAM S. APPLETON,
Record Commissioners.

CITY HALL, BOSTON, December, 1885.

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BOSTON TOWN RECORDS.

Anno Domini: 1742–3

[509.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston in Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the Fourteenth Day of March, A. D. 1742.

Prayer being made by the Rev^{d}. Charles Chauncey D. D.

The Honourable John Jeffries Esqr. Acquainted the Town that this being the first time of Meeting in Faneuil Hall since the Death of Peter Faneuil Esqr. the Founder of the same, The Select Men having Determined that same proper Respect should be paid to his Memory, had Appointed & Desired Mr. John Lovell Master of the South Grammar School to do the same, And then the said Mr. Lovell having taken the Moderators Seat, which was hung in Mourning Cloth made an handsome Oration on the Death of the said Peter Faneuil Esqr.. to the great Acceptance of the Town.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting —— Read.

The Inhabitants proceeded to the Choice of a Moderator (by a handy Vote) and,

The Honble. Thomas Cushing Esqr. was Unanimously Chosen.

Sundry Laws —— Read.

Ezekiel Goldthwait was Chosen Town Clerk for the Year ensuing by a very great Majority, and Sworn into that Office by the Honble Anthony Stoddard Esqr.

Sundry Petitions Read Vizt.

Of Sundry Inhabitants for Paving Green Lane.

. . . . for a Bowling Green on Fort Hill.

. . . . relating to Faneuil Hall Market

. . . . for a Publick Market at the North and South ends of the Town.

Of Mr. Nathaniel Emmes for a Lease of Land at the head of the Town Dock

Of the Engine Men to be Excused from other Service and to have the Premium continued.

Of Mr. Nathaniel Wardell relating to the Hay Market

Of Mr. Abia Holbrook, to be Appointed Master of the North Writing School.

Of Mr. Zechariah Hicks, for the same.

[510.] Of Mr. Samuel White, Usher of the North Grammar School, for Addition to his Salary.

Of Mr. Peleg Wiswall, Master of the North Grammar School, for Addition to his Salary.

A Motion made by Mr. Robert Rand that as the respective Fines and Forfeitures arising to the Town from those Persons who refuse to Serve in the Offices to which they are Chosen, were fixed & Set as

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he Apprehends in Bills of the Old Tenor, that it would be best for the Town to Determine whether the same Sums mentioned in said Laws shall be in Lawful Money or Bills of the Old Tenor.

Motions made by the Select Men for Regulating Bakers, Trucks, Carting, Wood, Coaches &c. Mending the Neck &c.

A Motion made by Mr. Jeremiah Belknap for keeping the Granary open every Day in the Forenoon.

Voted, To proceed to the Choice of Seven Select Men.

The Votes being accordingly Collected & Sorted it Appeared that the following Gentlemen were Chosen to that Office for the Year ensuing, Vizt.

The Honble. John Jeffries Esqr.	Select Men.
Capt. Alexander Forsyth	
Jonas Clarke Esqr.	
Thomas Hutchinson Esqr.	
Mr. Thomas Hancock	
Mr. Middlecott Cooke	
Capt. John Steel	

Adjourned, to Three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Afternoon, The Inhabitants being Assembled.

The Motion made by Mr. Rand in the Forenoon relating to Fines &c. now came under Consideration and after some Debate thereon

Voted, That any Person or Persons Chosen to any Office in the Town for the Year ensuing who in Case of refusing is Obliged to Pay any Fine or Penalty shall be Excused from Serving Provided he or they shall Pay their respective Fines in Bills of the Old Tenor as the Several Persons did who were the last Year Elected and refused to Serve.

[511.] A Motion made by Mr. Joseph Marion that the Thanks of the Town be given to Mr. John Lovell for his handsome Performance in the Forenoon in Pronouncing the Oration desired of him by the Select Men on Occasion of the Death of Peter Faneuil Esqr. & that the same be Entred on the Records of the Town & that a Copy thereof be desired for the Press.

Voted, To Choose Twelve Constables distinct from Collectors of Taxes, accordingly

Messrs. John Lane Junr.	Sworn	Constables.
Caleb Joseph Gray	Sworn	
Job Coit	Sworn	
David Webb	Sworn	
Ezekiel Lewis	Excused	
Ralph Inman	Pay	
Caleb Lyman	Pay	
John Bennett	Pay	
Nathaniel Thayer	Pay	
James Butler	Pay	
William Fletcher	Pay	
John Thwing	Excus'd.	

were Chosen Constables.

Mr. Caleb Lyman Appeared & Said that he was drawn at the

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last Town Meeting to Serve as a Petit Juror at the Superiour Court of Judicature &c^a^. now Sitting & Expected to Pay a Fine of Forty Shillings for not Serving there, & Prayed to be Excused from Serving Constable, The Question being put, Whether he should be Excused for the Reasons given, Voted in the Negative.

The following Gentlemen were Chosen Overseers of the Poor for the Year ensuing, Vizt.

The Hon. Jacob Wendell Esqr.	Overseers of Poor.
William Tyler Esqr.	
John Hill Esqr.	
Thomas Hubbard Esqr.	
Daniel Henchman Esqr.	
Mr. Edward Bromfield	
Col^o^. William Downe	
Mr. Samuel Hunt	
Andrew Oliver Esqr.	
Deacon John Phillips	
Mr. Isaac Walker	
Mr. George Rogers	

[512.] Voted, That the Town proceed to the Choice of a County Treasurer Tomorrow at Eleven o'Clock, & then take into Consideration the Affairs of the Markets, and the Petition for a Bowling Green on Fort Hill.

The Petition of the Engine Men to be Excused from Duty and to have the Premium of Five Pounds Old Tenor to the Engine that shall be first brought to Work upon any Building on Fire — Read, and

Voted, That the Prayer of the Petition be granted, Provided they carry with them their Axe and Hook to the Fire.

On the Motion made by Mr. Joseph Marion relating to Mr. Lovells Oration ——

Voted Unanimously, That the Select Men be desired to give the Thanks of the Town to the said Mr. Lovell for his handsome and ingenious Oration Pronounced by him in the Forenoon on Occasion of the Death of Peter Faneuil Esqr. and that they desire of him a Copy for the Press the same to be published at the Expence of the Town and Entred with the Records thereof.

The Town proceeded to the Choice of a Town Treasurer and upon Collecting and Sorting the Votes it Appeared that

The Honble. Joseph Wadsworth Esqr. was Chosen by a very great Majority.

Voted, That the Choice of a School Master for the North Writing School be Tomorrow at Ten o'Clock in the Forenoon.

Messrs. William White	Pay	Constables.
Samuel Phillips Savage	Pay	
Benjamin Green	Pay	
William Cowell	Pay	
Nathaniel Richardson	Sworn	
Henry Perkins	Pay	

were Chosen Constables.

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Then the Town Adjourned to Nine o'Clock Tomorrow Morning.
Tuesday, March 15. 1742. the Town being Assembled.

Messrs. Seth Coburn	Pay	Constables.
Daniel Marsh	Pay	
Samuel Eliot	Pay	
Kenelm Winslow	Pay	
John Gutteridge	Pay	

were Chosen Constables.

[**513.**] According to the Vote of Yesterday the Town proceeded to the Choice of a Schoolmaster for the North Writing School in the room of Mr. John Procter who has resigned that place and upon Collecting and Sorting the Votes it Appeared that Mr. Zechariah Hicks was Chosen by a very great Majority.

According to the Vote of Yesterday the Town now proceeded to the Choice of a County Treasurer, and the Votes being brought in they were Sealed up by Mr. Constable Lane, and Delivered to him, to be by him kept and returned to the next Court of Quarter Sessions.

According to the Vote of Yesterday the Town now proceeded to take into Consideration the Affairs of the Markets, according to the Petition of Sundry Inhabitants, And after a long Debate, For the better Regulation of Faneuil Hall Market, It was

Voted, That the Select Men be desired to Shut up the Market at Faneuil Hall, Three Days in the Week, Vizt. Mondays, Wednesdays and Frydays, and that the same be Opened the other Three Days, Vizt. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays until Twelve o'Clock, and then be Shut up and Continue so doing until the next General Town Meeting, And in the mean time the Select Men are desired to Consult what is farther Necessary to be done for the better Regulating of said Market and make Report thereon at the said next General Town Meeting.

Voted, That the Sum of Sixty Pounds Bills of the Old Tenor be Allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury unto Mr. Thomas Jackson Clerk of Faneuil Market in full for his Service and all Expences he has been at in Sweeping the same and Ringing the Bell.

Messrs. Ephraim Bound		Constables.
John Welch	Pay	
Gammon Stevens	Pay	
William Story	Excus'd	
Neal McIntire	Sworn	
Jonathan Bryant	Excus'd	

were Chosen Constables.

[**514.**] Voted, That the Consideration of the Petition of Sundry Inhabitants relating to the Opening the North & South Markets be refer'd to the next General Town Meeting.

The Town proceeded to the Choice of a Clerk for Faneuil Hall Market for the Year ensuing and upon Collecting & Sorting the Votes it Appeared that Mr. John Staniford was Chosen by a great Majority.

Voted, That the Select Men give such Orders & Directions to the

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Clerk of the Market from time to time for the Regluation thereof until the next General Town Meeting as they shall think proper.

Voted, That the Petition of Sundry Inhabitants relating to the having a Bowling Green on Fort Hill be taken into Consideration at Three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Adjourned to Three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Afternoon, the Town being Assembled according to Adjournment.

Mess^n.	Caleb Ray	Pay	Constables
	Joseph Butler	Sworn	
	John Comrin	Sworn	
	Sampson Sheafe	Pay	
	John Gould	Excus'd	

were Chosen Constables.

According to the Vote of the Forenoon, the Petition of Several of the Inhabitants for a Bowling Green on Fort Hill was taken into Consideration, and after a Long Debate thereon, A Question was put, Whether any part of Fort Hill should be Appropriated for a Bowling Green according to the Prayer of the Petitioners? And it pass'd in the Affirmative. But the Matter remaining doubtful Seven of the Inhabitants desired the same may be decided by a Poll, which was accordingly done & thereupon it appeared to be a Clear Vote by a great Majority, and then it was

Voted, That the Select Men be & hereby are Impowered to Lease out unto such Persons & for such term of time and at such Rent as they shall think proper, such a part of the said Hill as they think Necessary for a Bowling Green with this Restriction that the same shall be Quitted by the Lessees & given up to the Town when ever they require it.

[**515.**] Voted, to Choose Seven Assessors for the Year ensuing, and

Mess^n.	Richard Buckley	Assessors.
	Joshua Blanchard	
	Jacob Parker	
	Daniel Pecker	
	Nathaniel Barker	
	William Fairfield	
	Jospeh Roby	

were Chosen accordingly.

On a Motion made by Several of the Inhabitants relating to David Webb who was Chose & Sworn in a Constable Yesterday, that he was really unable to Attend the Duty of that Office being in a Bad State of Health &c. and he Appeared and prayed the Town to Consider thereof, & after some Debate thereon, Voted, That he be Excused accordingly, and that another be Chosen in his Room.

Mess^n.	William Simpkins	Pay	Constables
	James Morris	Sworn	
	John Whittemore	Sworn	

were Chosen Constables.

Adjourned till Tomorrow Morning Nine o'Clock.

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Wednesday, March. 16. 1742. the Town being Assembled

Mr. Joseph Roby who was Yesterday Chosen an Assessor Appeared and Prayed that the Town would Excuse him from Serving in that Office, for that his Business will not Admit of it, and he is a Standing Grand Juror for the present Year, The Question being put, Whether he should be Excused? And it pass'd in the Affirmative.

The Town then proceeded to the Choice of another Person to Serve in that Office in his room, and upon Collecting the Votes it Appeared that Mr. Nathaniel Gardner was Chosen.

Messrs. Jeremiah Allen	Excus'd	Constables.
Robert Breck	Pay	

were Chosen Constables.

[516.] Mr. Jeremiah Allen Appeared & Moved that he might be Excused from Serving as a Constable, for that he hath had the Honour of Sitting in the Honourable House of Representatives as a Member of said House, and that it had not been the Practice of the Town to Choose any such Person to be a Constable, The Question being put, Whether he should be Excused for the reason given, And it passed in the Affirmative, and he was Excused accordingly.

Mr. John Wells was Chosen a Constable & Sworn.

Voted, That there be Sixteen Viewers of Shingles &c^{a}. Chosen, and that they be Chosen by a handy Vote. and

Messrs. Thomas Foster	Sworn	Viewers of Shingles &c.
Capt. John Indicott	Sworn	
Edward Moberly	Sworn	
Edward Richards	Sworn	
John Ruddock	Sworn	
William Paine	Sworn	
Benjamin Russell	Sworn	
Joseph White	Sworn	
Matthew Barnard	Sworn	
Moses Eayres	Pay	
John Lewis Vintenon	Sworn	
James Barnard	Sworn	
John Simpson	Sworn	
Samuel Hood	Sworn	
Moses Tyler	Sworn	
Samuel Brown	Engine Man.	

were Chosen accordingly.

On a Motion made, It was Voted, That the Selectmen be and hereby are desired and Impowered to make such Agreements and Allowances to the Clerks of the Market for the better Enabling them to Discharge the Duty of their Office as shall be thought proper and Necessary by the said Select Men.

Voted, That Twelve Clerks of the Market be Chosen and

Messrs. Ebenezer Simpson	Sworn	Clerks of the Market
Benjamin Goldthwait	Sworn	
Samuel Jackson	Sworn	

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[517.] John Mc.Neal
Samuel Service Sworn
Holmes Simpson Sworn
Edward Winter Sworn
John Collson Sworn
David Jenkins Pay
Benjamin Babbidge Sworn
Thomas Eades Pay
John Scolley Pay
William Pattin
} Clerks of the Market.

were accordingly Chosen.

Messrs. Daniel Coney Pay
James Nichols Pay
} Constables.

were Chosen Constables.

Messrs. Joseph Russell Sworn
James Tileston Sworn
Hopestill Foster Sworn
William Bastow Sworn
Joshua Thornton
Onesiphorus Tileston Sworn
William Thwing Sworn
John Adams Sworn
} Fence Viewers.

were Chosen Fence Viewers for the Year ensuing.

Capt. Andrew Sigourney Pay
Mr. Samuel Gooding, Cooper Pay
} Constables.

were Chosen Constables.

Messrs. Benjamin Barnard
John Helyer Sworn
Harvey Thomas Sworn
John Hobbs Sworn
David Kent Sworn
Samuel Gooding
Thomas Hake Sworn
} Cullers of Staves

were Chosen Cullers of Staves for the Year ensuing.

Mr. Isaac Gridley was Chosen Surveyor of Hemp and Flax for the Year ensuing.

[518.] Messrs. Nathaniel Hodgdon Sworn
Thomas Inches Sworn
John Allen
William Nesbett Sworn
William Brown Sworn
William Darrington Sworn
John Lawson
} Sealers of Leather.

were Chosen Sealers of Leather for the Year ensuing.

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Messrs. John Holyoke
John Collson
William Salter
Ebenezer Holmes
Thomas Boucher
Joseph Bradford
George Skinner
Thomas Fleet
Richard Salter
James Griffin (Cordwainer)
Thomas Simpkins
Thomas Lee
} Scavingers.

were Chosen Scavingers for the Year ensuing

Mr. John Sowden was Chosen a Constable. Sworn.

Messrs. Richard Hubbard Sworn
Nathaniel Gardner
} Informers ab^{t}. Deer.

were Chosen to inform against & Prosecute the Violaters of the Act for the better Preservation and Increase of Deer within this Province.

Mr. Richard-Carter Cowell was Chosen Haward for the Year ensuing.

Voted, That the Select Men be Surveyors of the High Ways.

Messrs. Harrison Gray
Jacob Emmons Sworn
Joseph Webb Sworn
John Harris Sworn
} Hogreves.

were Chosen Hogreves for the Year ensuing.

A Question being put, Whether they would Choose Tything Men? And it passed in the Negative.

[**519.**] The Petition of Mr. Peleg Wiswall, Master of the North Grammar School, for an Addition to his Salary, Read at the Opening of the Meeting, now came under Consideration & after some Debate thereon,

Voted, That the Town will not at present make any Addition to his Salary, but in Consideration that the Necessarys of Life have been very Scarce and not Purchased but at a great Cost —— That the Sum of One Hundred Pounds Bills of the Old Tenor be paid out of the Town Treasury unto Mr. Peleg Wiswall.

The Petition of Mr. Samuel White, Usher of the North Grammar School, praying for an Addition to his Salary, now come under Consideration and after some Debate ——

Voted, That the Sum of Forty Pounds Bills of the Old Tenor be Added to his Salary.

The Petition of Mr. Nathaniel Wardell relating to the Hay Market, now came under Consideration and after a Debate thereon —— Voted, That the Affair of Weighing of Hay at the said Market be refer'd to the Select Men who are hereby Impowered to Agree with the said Nathaniel Wardell the Son or any of his Relations

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for Weighing of Hay, provided he or they give Sufficient Security to the Satisfaction of the Select Men that the Duty of that place shall be well performed.

The Petition of a Number of the Abutters & Proprietors of Land in Green Lane, for Paving the said Lane, now came under Consideration and after some Debate thereon ——

It was Voted, That the Prayer thereof be so far Granted, as that the Town shall repay their proportionable part of the Charge of Paving the said Lane at the times mentioned in the said Petition, Vizt. One third part thereof in the Year, 1743. Another third in 1744. And the other third part thereof in the Year, 1745. the same to begin and extend from the Pavement before Doctor Bulfinch's House to the Corner of Mr. Barrett's Land, the same to be done by the Direction and to the Approbation of the Select Men.

Adjourned to Four o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Afternoon, the Inhabitants being Assembled.

Voted, That the Choice of Collectors of Taxes be refer'd to the next General Town Meeting.

[**520.**] Whereas the Collectors of Taxes have Represented to the Town that there are many Persons still in Arrears for their Taxes, Praying the Advice of the Town thereon —— thereupon

Voted, That the said Collectors Exhibit to the Town at their next General Meeting, a List of the Names of all such Persons as have not paid their Taxes due from them by that time.

The Report of the Select Men on the Visitation of the Publick Schools —— Read and is as follows, Vizt.

To the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of Boston in Town Meeting Assembled, March. 14. 1742.

Pursuant to a Vote of the Town of Boston at their Annual Meeting the Eighth of March last past, Desiring the Select Men to Visit the Several Publick Schools in the Town, & to desire such Gentlemen to Accompany them therein as they should think proper, and to Report thereon.

We the Subscribers accordingly Attended that Service on Wednesday the Twenty third Day of June last, Accompanied by the following Gentlemen, Vizt.

His Excellency William Shirley Esqr.
The Hon. Ezekiel Lewis Esqr.
The Hon. Nathaniel Hubbard Esqr.
The Hon. John Read Esqr.
The Hon. Samuel Waldo Esqr.
The Rev^{d}. Joseph Sewall D.D.
The Rev^{d}. Mr. Samuel Checkley
The Rev^{d}. Mr. William Hooper
Jeremiah Gridley Esqr. and
Doct^{r}. Thomas Bulfinch.

And found the said Schools under good Regulation, The Number of Scholars in each School were as follows, Vizt. In the South Grammar School Ninety four, In the South Writing School Seventy

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three, In the Writing School in Queen Street Seventy three, In the North Grammar School Sixty five And in the North Writing School Two Hundred and Thirty.

JOHN JEFFRIES
ALEXANDER FORSYTH
JOHN STEEL
THOMAS HANCOCK
} Select Men.

[521.] Voted, That this Report be Accepted, and that the Gentlemen the Select Men be desired to Visit the Publick Schools the Year ensuing, and that they desire such Gentlemen to Accompany them therein as they shall think Convenient & that they Report thereon:

The Report of a Committee appointed the Twenty fourth Day of May last, to Audit the Town Treasurers Accounts for the Year past, as Entred in the Treasurers Books, Read, Accepted and

Voted, That the Treasurer be (so far) accordingly Discharged.

The Select Mens Report on Mr. Francis Willoughbys Account of the Granary for the Year past, and as Entred in his Book Read, and Voted, That the said Report be Accepted, and accordingly that Mr. Willoughby be farther Accountable to the Town for Fourteen Hundred & Ninety Nine Bushels of Corn, Thirty five Bushels of Rye, and the Sum of One Hundred & Thirty Nine Pounds, Five Shillings & Seven pence in Bills of Credit of the Old Tenor, the whole of which Amounts to Nine Hundred and Nineteen Pounds Nineteen Shillings & a penny Old Tenor, which remains in his Hands Exclusive of Mr. Willoughbys Salary for the year past, Vizt. One Hundred Pounds Old Tenor, which is hereby also Allowed

Voted, That The Hon. Edward Hutchinson Esqr.
Joshua Winslow Esqr.
Francis Borland Esqr.
Mr. John Wheelwright, and
Mr. Thomas Greene

be a Committee to Audit the Town Treasurers Accounts for the year ensuing and make Report as Usual, and that they also Audit the Accounts of the Overseers of the Poor respecting the Almshouse And also the Work house and to Attend the Affairs at the Usual place of the Overseers Meeting, and said Accounts being Audited, the Committee to make Report thereon at the next General Town Meeting, And the Overseers are desired to lodge the particular Disbursements in reference to the Almshouse, and also a Summary Account respecting the Work house in the Town Clerks Office.

The Petition of Nathaniel Emmes, Setting forth That the Vacant Peice of Ground at the Head of Dock Square behind the [522.] Watch house is intirely Useless to the Town as it now is & little better than a Sink of Filth & Dirt which is very Offensive to the Inhabitants that live thereabout, Proposing to the Town that if they would Lease out to him for such a term of Years as shall be thought proper that part of the Head of said Dock that belongs to the Town at a Small Quit Rent, he at his own Expence would Build a Substantial Hollow Wharfe & a Small Shop or Shed thereon

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for Carrying on the Business of a Stone Cutter & at the End of said Lease deliver up the said Wharfe & Building to the Town free of all Charge & Expence for Erecting the same —— being Read and after some Debate thereon ——

It was Voted, That the Select Men be desired to Consider of the Prayer thereof & Report what is proper for the Town to do thereon at the next General Town Meeting.

A Question was put, Whether the Town will Choose a Committee for Purchasing Grain &c. by a handy Vote? It passed in the Affirmative —— and

Messrs. Jeremiah Belknap, John Salter, and Deacon Samuel Bridgeham } Com^tee^. for Purchasing Grain.

were Chosen accordingly, and they are hereby Impowered to give All Needful Directions to the Master of the Granary respecting the Quantities of Grain to be Sold and Setting the Price thereof from time to time.

On a Motion made, Voted That the Committee for Purchasing Grain be desired to give Orders to the keeper of the Granary that he keep open the same Three Days in a Week Vizt. Mondays Wednesdays and Frydays, and that he give his Attendance there accordingly.

On a Motion made, Voted That the Select Men be desired to prepare a By-Law for the regulating the great Inconveniences and Disorders that Attend the driving of Coaches Chaises &c. on Lords Days, Also

Voted, That the Representatives of this Town be desired to get a Law passed the Great and General Court as soon as may be to Impower the Select Men to Regulate Trucks, Carts &c. and Setting the Prices for any Service they may do.

[**523.**] On a Motion made by the Honourable Thomas Cushing Esqr. the Moderator that the Report of a Committee Appointed the Nineteenth of May last to Draw up and Set forth to the General Court the distressing Circumstances of the Town and to Pray for Relief as to their proportion of the Province Tax, be Entred in the Towns Book of Records.

It was Voted, That the Town Clerk take Care that the same be done accordingly.

The Select Men having presented the List of Jurors taken the last Year for the Superiour and Inferiour Courts, the same is refer'd to the next General Town Meeting, the Town then to Act upon the same.

Voted That the Consideration of Raising Money be refer'd to the next General Town Meeting, Also

Voted, That the Several Motions made by the Select Men at the Opening of the Meeting relating to the better Regulation of the Bakers, Carting Wood and Mending the Neck be refer'd to the next General Town Meeting.

Voted, That the Thanks of this Town be given to the Honourable Thomas Cushing Esqr. the Moderator for his great pains in Regulating and giving Dispatch to the Business of this Meeting.

Then the Meeting was Dismissed.

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Boston March. 16. 1742.

The following Report of the Committee appointed the Nineteenth of May last, to draw up and Set forth to the General Court the distressing Circumstances of the Town and to Pray for Relief as to their proportion of the Province Tax, was Ordered to be here Recorded by Vote of the Town of this Day, Vizt.

To the Honourable Thomas Cushing Esqr. and other the Representatives of the Town of Boston.

Gentlemen,

As the Town of Boston has Chosen us a Committee to Represent to You the Distressed State thereof at [524.] This Day in Order to be laid before the General Court for their Consideration and to Obtain a very large Abatement in the Apportioning of their Share in the Province Tax for the future, so to Shorten the Representation We take leave to refer you to the Memorial laid before the General Court Anno Domini, 1735. and shall only Observe upon the Material Difference between the State of the Town at that time Compared with this Day.

Our Trade in general at this Day (by the best Light which can be had) is not above One half that it was in 1735. and so much upon the Decline that there is great danger of its being reduced to the greatest Extremity and Consequently renders the Town unable to Pay such a very large Proportion of the Province Tax as they have Usually stood Charged with in time past.

Our Distilling which at that Day was much upon the Decline is much more reduced at this Occasioned by the great Demand for Rum at Jamaica to Supply the Fleet which has Encouraged the Inhabitants of that Island to Distill most of their Molasses into Rum which otherwise would have been brought hither as usual to be Manufactured, Also the great Demand for Rum in Ireland and other places in Europe has Encouraged the Distilling in Our Windward Islands That We have little Molasses from thence so that the Quantity of Molasses Distilled at this Day does not Amount to above Two thirds of what there was in 1735. So that We Suffer exceedingly in that Branch of Trade Compared with time past.

Our Cod Fishery, the difference between that Article as Complained of in 1735. and this Day Stands thus that altho' Our Encouragement was very small at that Day Yet Our Navigation and Trade was kept up by Sending the Fish abroad in Our own Vessells, and Paying for Fish in the Course of Our own Trade which We are now almost entirely Stript of and both Fish and Supply is Confined to the Fishing Towns who generally Send it abroad in their own Vessells Especially Marblehead Salem and Plymouth which has rendered them much Abler and Us much less to Support Our Usual proportion of the Province Tax.

Our Trade to the West Indies, Compared with 1735. has grown so much Worse as at this Day as to be almost reduced to Nothing and Our Discouragement so great as that We [525.] Are Obliged to lay up Our Vessells not knowing where to Employ them to the least Advantage.

Our Trade to London the Variation between 1735. & this time is exceedingly Altered for the worse, as a Town it was then Al-

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lowed that the greatest Advantage this Town reaped from that Trade was by Ship Building which Employed most of Our Tradesmen, But that is now reduced so that whereas in 1735. Orders might arrive for Building Forty Sail of Ships, there has been as yet but Orders for Two, by which means this most Advantagious Branch of Trade to Our Mother Countrey being lessened to so great a degree must Necessarily Oblige a great many of Our Useful Tradesmen to leave the Town as many have already done, so that this Town will Suffer exceedingly for want of that Branch of Trade being properly Supported and thereby rendered much less Able to Support a large Tax, than from the decline of all the other Branches of Trade together by reason that Branch Employed more Men than all the rest.

The Charges of the Town are exceedingly increased upon Us, We shall Add no more than to Shew the Difference of Charge from 1735. to this time, The Charge 1735. for the Poor was £2069 —— 1736 to 1740. above £3300 —— Annually —— 1740. the Charge was £4800. and this Year its Apprehended £5000 —— will but bearly Support the Charge.

The whole Town Rate Stands thus for the last Years. 1738. £8600. —— 1739. £8600. —— 1740. £8600. 1741. £11000. —— 1742. £11000.

The Decrease of Polls Stands thus.

1738	Polls Rated	3395.
1739	. .	3231.
1740	. .	3043.
1741	. .	2972.

So that in Four Years the Decrease of Polls is 423. almost One Eighth part of the Number of Rated Inhabitants And therefore Nothing can be a greater proof of the Towns inability to Pay so large a proportion of the Province Tax as in times past that Our Rateable Polls are Yearly decreased and like to be more so, Our Trade very much decayed and Our Poor & Town Charge exceedingly increased when at the same time it cannot be denyed But that the Province as such is much increased [**526.**] Settlements of New Towns made & other Towns daily filled with Inhabitants and much improved and great part of Our Useful Trade gone to other Towns which upon the whole renders them much Abler to bear a larger and this Town a much smaller Tax than in time past.

Again the Excessive high price of Provisions for Two Years past has exceedingly Impoverished this Town whilst the Countrey Towns in general have raised their own Provisions and been free from such a Calamity which in the Winter Season, 1740. very much distressed Our Inhabitants & had it not been for the extended Charity of Able & well disposed Persons amongst Us a great many must have Suffered exceedingly & some did Notwithstanding all the Care to prevent it; All which has reduced this Town & increased the Countrey by Our paying a most Extravagant price to them for Wood and Provissions which We were Obliged to Buy of the Neighbouring Towns, by reason the Winter Set in early, Closed the Harbour with Ice, and Shut out Our Wood and Provissions which We were wont to be Supplyed with at Easy Rates.

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In the Town Moreover there is a great many Polls which are not Rated and are Supported by Charity not included in the Charge of the Towns Poor.

The Support of the Ministry is increased £4000 a Year since 1735. for whereas it was but £8000, then, its now £12000.

Upon the whole its Apprehended this Town ought not at this Day to Stand Charged with more than One Tenth or at most One Eighth part of the Province Tax.

We are
Gentlemen,
Your most Obedient humble Servants.

Boston Dec. 2. 1742. NATH^L. CUNNINGHAM, THOMAS HUTCHINSON, JOS. MARION } Committee.

[527.] The Oration Pronounced by Mr. John Lovell at the Opening of the Meeting, on Occasion of the Death of Peter Faneuil Esqr. is here Recorded by Order of the Town, and is in the Words following, Vizt.

I Stand in this place, my Fellow Townsmen, and my worthy Patrons, at the Call of those to whom you have committed the Direction of your Publick Affairs, to condole with you for the Loss of your late generous Benefactor, The Founder of this House. Certain I am, there are Numbers in this great Assembly, who could upon this Occasion have done more Justice to his Memory, and and have better Discharged the Office that is enjoin'd me. But the Commands of those (for such I must always esteem their Desires) who have devolved this Charge upon me, and the Veneration I have for the Vertues of the Deceas'd, oblige me to bear what little Part I can, in a grateful Acknowledgement of the just Regard due to the Memory of a Man, whose Name, I'm sure will never be forgotten among us.

How soon, alas! is our Joy for having found such a Benefactor, chang'd into Mourning for the Loss of him! But a few Months are pass'd, since we were framing Votes, and consulting the best Measures to express our Gratitude for his unexampled Favours; and this first Annual Meeting within these Walls that were rais'd by his Bounty, finds us Assembled in the deepest Sorrow for his Decease.

Instances of Mortality are never more affecting than in those whose Lives have been Publick Blessings. Surely then every Breast must feel a more than common Distress, for the Loss of One, whose Largeness of Heart equal'd, great as it was, his Power to do Good. Honest Industry must mourn, for which the Exercise of his Bounty found an almost constant Employment: And they that know how to Pity the Calamities of human Nature themselves, will mourn for him that always reliev'd them.

[528.] So soon as he arriv'd to the Possession of his large and plentiful Estate: instead of fruitlesly hoarding up his Treasures, tho' no Man managed his Affairs with greater Prudence and Industry; instead of wasting them in Luxury, tho' Plenty always crown'd his Board; instead of Neglecting the Wants of his Fellow-

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Creatures, an unhappy Circumstance too often attending the Possession of Riches, he made it manifest that he understood the true Improvement of Wealth, and was determin'd to pursue it. It was to him the highest Enjoyment of Riches, to relieve the Wants of the Needy, from which he was himself exempted, to see Mankind rejoicing in the Fruits of his Bounty, and to feel that divine Satisfaction which results from Communicating Happiness to others. His Acts of Charity were so Secret and unbounded, that none but they who were the Objects of it can Compute the Sums which he annually Distributed among them. His Alms flow'd like a fruitful River, that diffuses it's Streams thro' a whole Country. He fed the Hungry, and he Cloath'd the Naked, he comforted the Fatherless, and the Widows in their Affliction, and his Bounties visited the Prisoner. So that Almighty God in giving Riches to this Man, seems to have Scattered Blessings all abroad among the People.

But these private Charities were not the only Effects of his Publick Spirit, which, not contented with Distributing his Benefactions to private Families, extended them to this whole Community. Let this Stately Edifice which bears his Name Witness for him, what Sums he expended in Publick Munificence, This Building Erected by him at an immense Charge, for the Convenience and Ornament of the Town, is incomparably the greatest Benefaction ever yet known to Our Western Shoar. Yet this Effect of his Bounty, however great is but the first Fruits of his Generosity a Pledge of what his Heart, always devising liberal Things, would have done for us, had his Life been Spar'd. It is an unspeakable Loss to the Town, that he was taken away in the midst of his Days, and in so Sudden a manner, as to prevent his making Provission for what his generous Heart might [**529.**] Design. For I am well Assur'd from those who were Acquainted with his Purposes, that he had many more Blessings in Store for us, had Heavén prolong'd his Days.

But he is gone! The Town's Benefactor, the Comforter of the Distress'd, and the poor Man's Friend.

He is gone! And all his Plans of future Bounties with him, they are Buried in the Grave together. He shall be rais'd to Life again: And his intended Charities, tho' they are lost to us, will not be lost to him. Designs of Goodness and Mercy, prevented as these were, will meet with the Reward of Actions.

He is gone! . . . And must such Men Die! Die in the midst of their Days! Must the Protectors and Fathers of the Distress'd be taken away, while their Oppressors are continued, and increase in Power! . . . Great God! How Unsearchable are thy Ways! . . . We Confess Our Sins, but just and righteous art Thou.

To express your Gratitude to your generous Benefactor, you have pass'd the most honourable Resolves, and to preserve his Memory, you have call'd this House by his Name. But in vain, alas, would you perpetuate his Memory by such frail Materials! These Walls, the present Monuments of his Fame, shall Moulder into Dust: These Foundations, however deeply laid, shall be forgotten. But his Deeds, his Charities, shall survive the Ruins of

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Nature. And to have relief'd the Miseries of the Distress'd, to have still'd the Cries of Orphans, and to have dry'd the Widow's Tears, are Acts that shall embalm his Memory for many Generations on Earth, and shall follow him beyond the Limits of Mortality, into those blissful Regions where endless Charity dwells.

What now remains, but my ardent Wishes (in which I know you will all concur with me) That this Hall may be ever Sacred to the Interests of Truth, of Justice, of Loyalty, of Honour, of Liberty. May no private Views nor party Broils ever enter within these Walls; but may the same publick Spirit that glow'd in the Breast of the generous Founder, influence all your Debates, that Society may reap the Benefit of them.

[530.] May Liberty always spread its joyful Wings over this Place: Liberty that opens Men's Hearts to Beneficence and gives the Relish to those who enjoy the Effects of it. And may Loyalty to a King, under whom we enjoy this Liberty, ever remain our Character. A Character always justly due to this Land, and of which our Enemies have in vain Attempted to rob us.

May those who are the Inheriters of the large Estate of our Deceased Benefactor, inherit likewise the Largeness of his Soul. May the Widow, the Orphan, and the Helpless, find in them a Protector, a Father, & a Support. In a Word, to Sum up all, May Faneuil live in them.

May Charity, that most excellent of Graces, that Beam from the Breast of the Father of Mercies, which so soon as ever it enters our Bosoms begins our Happiness, Charity, the Joy of Men, of Angels, of Almighty God; which Compleats the Felicity of Earth and Heaven: May Charity more abound among us. May it warm the Hearts of those who are like to Our departed Friend in their Fortunes, to resemble him too in his Bounties; May there be rais'd up some new Benefactors in the room of him we have lost, who shall, if possible, rival Faneuil's Spirit. And may there always remain in this Town the same grateful Sentiments, the same vertuous Dispositions, to remember their Benefactors with Honour.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston in Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the Fourth Day of May Anno Domini, 1743.

Prayer was made by the Reverend Mr. Andrew Eliot.

The Precept and Warrant for calling the Meeting. Read.

Sundry Laws —— Read.

The Honourable John Jeffries Esqr. One of the Select Men in their Name proposed to the Inhabitants Assembled to proceed to the Choice of a Person or Persons to Serve for and Represent them in a Great and General Court or Assembly to be held at Boston upon Wednesday the Twenty fifth Day of May instant, And in Order thereto to Consider and Ascertain the Number of Gentlemen to be Elected, accordingly

[531.] Voted, to proceed to the Choice of Four Representatives, and it was declared that the Poll be closed at Twelve o'Clock.

The Votes being Collected the Number of Voters were found to

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be Four Hundred and Fifty One, and upon Sorting the Votes it Appeared that the following Gentlemen were Chosen, Vizt.

	No. of Votes.
The Honble. Thomas Cushing Esqr.	438
Mr. Timothy Prout	287
Thomas Hutchinson Esqr.	422
Andrew Oliver Esqr.	309

The Election of Representatives being Ended and the same being declared by the Select Men ——

The Town proceeded to the Choice of a Moderator by a handy Vote, and the Hon. Thomas Cushing Esqr. being Nominated, the Question was put, Whether they would Choose the said Thomas Cushing Esqr. for the Moderator of this Meeting, And it Unanimously passed in the Affirmative.

Sundry Petitions and Reports, Read, Vizt.

Of Mr. John Lovell, Master of the South Grammar School, for an Addition to his Salary.

Of Mr. Abia Holbrook, Master of the South Writing School, for an Addition to his Salary.

Of Mr. Samuel Gibson, Usher of the South Grammar School for an Addition to his Salary.

Of Mr. Benjamin Church for a Grant of Wheelers Pond.

Of the Collectors of Taxes, for the Assessors to Sit on Abatements.

The Select mens Report about Faneuil Hall Market. ——— on Mr. Nathaniel Emmes's Petition refer'd to them the last General Town Meeting.

A Motion made by Jacob Wendell Esqr. that the Committee appointed by the Town in May last to Prosecute such Persons as have Incroached on the Towns Lands, may make some Report, how far they have proceeded in that Affair.

A Motion made by Thomas Hutchinson Esqr. on behalf of Mr. Peleg Wiswall, Master of the North Grammar School, that the Town would make an Addition to his Salary.

A Motion made by the Honble. Joseph Wadsworth Esqr. Treasurer of the [532.] Town, Setting forth that Whereas many Persons, Pay a Quit Rent to the Town for Lands by them Possessed belonging to the Town, the Sums mentioned in their Leases or Agreements in Bills of the Old Tenor, and many of 'em being of an Ancient Date he Apprehends the respective Sums by the Assessors Agreed to be paid are now equal to the same Sum in Lawful Money, Praying the Advice of the Town thereon, and that he may have Directions what he shall receive for the future.

A Motion made by Capt. Nathaniel Cunningham, that a Plan be taken of all the Lands & Rights belonging to the Town, and hung up in Faneuil Hall, and that a particular Entry of all said Lands & Rights may be made for the better Information of the Inhabitants.

Thomas Hutchinson Esqr. One of the Select Men Informed the Town that the Select men look upon themselves Obliged at all times to Acquaint the Town with all their Affairs & he therefore Informed the Town that the Select men had received Information

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from London that Messrs. Abraham Francis & John Jones had Petitioned His Majesty in Council for another hearing of their cause with the Town by them Prosecuted for Possession of some Lands & Buildings on Dock Square, and that they had Liberty granted them accordingly, and that the Select men Expected very soon to be Served with an Order from His Majesty to make Answer to the same, but Supposed the Town would do nothing upon this his Information.

Voted, That the Meeting be Adjourned to 3 o'Clock Afternoon.

Afternoon, the Town being Assembled.

The Town proceeded to the Choice of a Constable and upon Sorting the Votes it Appeared that Mr. Nicholas Fessenden was Chosen and Sworn accordingly.

The Petition of Mr. John Lovell Master of the South Grammar School for an Addition to his Salary, Read at the Opening of the Meeting, now came under Consideration and after some Debate thereon —— It was Voted, That an Addition of Fifty Pounds p Annum in Bills of the Old Tenor be made to his Salary to Commence from the next Quarters Payment.

The Petition of Mr. Samuel Gibson Usher of the South Grammar School, for an Addition to his Salary, Read at the Opening of the Meeting, now came under Consideration & after a Short Debate thereon.

[**533.**] It was Voted, That an Addition of Twenty five Pounds Old Tenor be made to his Salary to Commence from his next Quarters Payment.

The Petition of Mr. Abia Holbrook Master of the South Writing School, for an Addition to his Salary, Read at the Opening of the Meeting, now came under Consideration & after a Short Debate thereon

It was Voted, That Mr. Abia Holbrooks Salary as Master of the said School be Two Hundred Pounds Old Tenor to Commence the Twenty Second of March last being the time he was Inducted into said School.

The Motion made by Thomas Hutchinson Esqr. in the forenoon, for an Addition to be made to Mr. Peleg Wiswalls Salary now came under Consideration and after some Debate thereon ——

It was Voted That an Addition of Fifty Pounds in Bills of the Old Tenor be made to Mr. Wiswalls Salary to Commence from his next Quarters Payment.

The Petition of Mr. Benjamin Church, praying the Town would make him a Grant of Wheelers Pond & the Land thereto belonging for reasons therein mentioned, as read in the forenoon now came under Consideration, and after some Debate thereon, The Question was put, Whether the Prayer of the Petition be Granted? And it passed in the Negative.

A Letter from Christopher Kilby Esqr. to the Select Men Dated London February. 18. 1742. informing them of Messrs Francis & Jones having Liberty of another hearing of their causes with the Town was Read.

Voted, That the Sum of Two Hundred & Fifty Pounds Bills of

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the Old Tenor be Allowed and paid to the Honble. Joseph Wadsworth Esqr. out of the Town Treasury for his good Services as Town Treasurer the Year last past.

Whereas the Treasurer hath represented to the Town that their Tenants are very backward in Paying the respective Rents from them due,

Therefore Voted, That when any Person or Persons shall hire any Lands Houses Warehouses &c^{a}. belonging to the Town, shall fail or Neglect paying the Rent from them respectively due within Twenty Days after the same is become due, the Town Treasurer for the time being shall be and hereby is Obliged immediately upon the Expiration of the said Twenty Days to prosecute in the Law all & every such Person or Persons as [**534.**] Shall be in Arrear for said Rent, and whenever the said Treasurer shall fail herein, he shall be Obliged to Pay the Debt himself.

Voted, a Grant of Twelve Thousand Pounds Bills of the Old Tenor be raised by a Tax, upon Polls and Estates within the Town of Boston for Relief of the Poor and defraying other Necessary Charges arising within & for said Town the Year ensuing.

Voted, That this Meeting be Adjourned to Fryday the Twentieth instant, at Three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

May the 20th. 1743. The Town being met according to Adjournment.

The List was returned by the Collectors of Taxes of the Names of Persons who are still Indebted for their Taxes & the reading over the same was refer'd to the next General Town Meeting.

The Honble. Edward Hutchinson Esqr. One of the Committee appointed at the General Town Meeting in March last to Audit the Town Treasurers Accounts for the Year ensuing and the Accounts of the Overseers of the Poor respecting the Almshouse & also the Workhouse, Informed the Town that the said Committee had Attended that Service but had not Compleated the same so as to be Able to make a Report at this Meeting —— thereupon

Voted, That the said Committee be desired to Compleat the Auditing said Accounts and make a Report at the next General Town Meeting, Also Voted That the said Committee be desired to See that the Draughts made upon the Treasury and said Overseers be Agreeable to Law & the Votes and Orders of the Town.

The Report of the Select Men relating to the further Regulation of Faneuil Hall Market was Read & is in the Words following, Vizt.

To the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston in Town Meeting Assembled, May. 4th. 1743.

The Select Men having been appointed by the Town to Consider what further Regulations are Necessary for Faneuil Hall Market and having had a Short time only to Consider thereof —— Report, That they are of Opinion it will be Convenient to keep the Market open till One o'Clock Three Days in the Week and that during the Summer Season it continue open on Saturdays [**535.**] In the Afternoon till Sunset.

The Select men further Report, That the Assessors under Colour of the Province Law enabling the Several Towns to Tax all Per-

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sons who Trade & Traffick in any One Town and are Inhabitants of another for the Use of such Town where they Trade, have Rated a Considerable Number of the Countrey People who bring Provissions to Market, which Practice the Select Men Apprehend tends to Discourage People from bringing Provissions to Town and so disserves the Town more than the Rates they Pay can be of Advantage And that therefore the Assessors be directed to Discontinue the said practice.

All which is humbly Submitted.

by JOHN JEFFRIES, ALEX^R. FORSYTH, THOMAS HANCOCK, THOMAS HUTCHINSON, MIDDLECOTT COOKE, JOHN STEEL } Select Men.

Upon that part of the Select Men's Report relating to the further Regulation of Faneuil Hall Market ——

It was Voted, That the same be not Accepted.

And after a long Debate on the other part of the said Report relating to the Assessors Taxing the People who bring Provissions to Market, a Motion was made that the further Consideration of this matter may be refer'd to the next General Town Meeting, and the Question being accordingly put, It passed in the Negative, & then the Town Voted, That the Assessors be & hereby are directed to Reconsider the Taxes they have laid on such Persons as bring Provissions to the Market in Order to Abate the same and that they discontinue the practice of Taxing them for the future.

Thomas Hutchinson Esqr. One of the Committee appointed the Fourteenth of May last to Examine the Treasurers Books and get a Set of New Books & Settle some proper Method for the Treasurer to State his Accot^s, &c. for the future, Reported, That the said Committee had Attended that Service and been at Considerable Trouble and Expence of time in Compleating the same and now produced the said New Books &c. and that they had Employed Mr. William Brock to Write & Assist in said Affair, praying the Town would make a [536.] Reasonable Allowance to the said Mr. Brock for the same.

Voted, That the Select men be desired to make such an Allowance to the said Mr. Brock for the same as they shall think just and reasonable.

The Petition of the Collectors of Taxes Praying the Assessors may be Allowed to Sit upon Abatements until the last Day of October next, now came under Consideration and after some Debate thereon —— It was Voted, That the Assessors be Allowed to Sit upon Abatements until the last Day of September next and no longer.

The Town proceeded to the Choice of Three Collectors of the Rates & Taxes for the Year ensuing, the Votes being Collected it Appeared that only two Gentlemen were Chosen into that Office, Vizt.

Messrs. John Staniford & Jacob Sheafe } Collectors.

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And then the Town proceeded to Choose another, and upon Collecting and Sorting the Votes it Appeared that Capt. John Goldthwait was Chosen into that Office.

The Consideration of the Allowance of the Collectors of Taxes, now came on, and after a Short Debate ———

It was Voted, That Twelve pence on the Pound (Old Tenor) be and hereby is Allowed to be paid to the Several Collectors of Taxes within this Town for the Year ensuing, Provided they Pay in to the Town Treasurer One half part of the Sums to be by them respectively Collected within Six Months from the time they shall receive the Books from the Assessors, and the other half part in Six months after, and in Case they or either of them shall fail Paying the Town Treasurer in the above manner the said Collectors shall forfeit the aforesaid Allowance of Twelve pence on the Pound for the Sum they were to Collect in the said Six Months wherein they so fail, Provided also that they give Bond with Sufficient Suretys for the faithful Discharge of their Office to the Satisfaction of the Select Men.

Thomas Hutchinson Esqr. One of the Select men Acquainted the Town that the Select men had received further Information from London relating to the Petition of Messrs. Francis & Jones [537.] For a Rehearing of their Causes with the Town, that the Gentleman who had been so good as to give them this Information out of regard to the Town and their Interest had been so kind as to Use his best Endeavours to Oppose the hearing of said Petition and acting any thing thereupon, that he had undoubtedly been at some Expence in this Affair and that the Select men as they have the Management of the prudential Affairs of the Town, think it but just and Honourable that the said Gentleman should have a reasonable Allowance made for his Disbursements and Trouble in this Affair, to which there was no Objection made.

Voted, That all the Motions made, and Matters remaining unfinished, be refer'd over to the next General Town Meeting for Consideration.

Then the Meeting was Dismissed.

[Here ends the book of the Town Records. — W. H. W.]

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[Here begins the 4th book of the Town Records. — W.H.W.]

[1.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston in Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall, on Friday the Eighth Day of July Anno Domini, 1743.

The Warrant for Calling the Meeting ——— Read.

The Inhabitants proceeded to the Choice of a Moderator (by a handy Vote) and thereupon the Honorable Thomas Cushing Esqr. was Unanimously Chosen.

A Petition of Mr. John Staniford Clerk of Faneuil Hall Market Praying that a Convenient Fire Room may be Assigned him in said Market ——— was Read.

The Act of the Great and General Court passed at their Sessions the Seventeenth Day of June last, Impowering the Town of Boston to Impose and Collect a Tax or Duty on Coaches Chaises &c. for the Use and Service of the said Town now came under Consideration pursuant to the Directions of said Act, and after long Debates upon the same, A Motion was made and Seconded, that the Consideration of Imposing the said Tax pursuant to said Act, may be referred to the General Town Meeting in March next, And the Question was accordingly put, Whether the same be refer'd? And it passed in the Affirmative.

Voted, That the Prayer of Mr. John Stanifords Petition for a Fire Room in Faneuil Hall Market, be referred to the Select men to Act thereon as they shall think proper.

Voted, That all the other Matters and things referred over from former Meetings to this time be further Continued to the next General Town Meeting for Consideration.

Then the Meeting was Dismissed.

[2.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly Qualified and Lawfully Warned in Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Friday the Fifth Day of August, Anno Domini, 1743.

Prayer being made by the Revd. Joseph Sewall D.D.

The Warrant for Calling the Meeting, was Read.

The Inhabitants proceeded to the Choice of a Moderator (by a handy Vote) and thereupon Thomas Cushing Esqr. was Unanimously Chosen.

The Selectmen Communicated to the Town the Copy of the Order that had been Served upon them the 28th. of July last, of His Majesty in Council bearing Date at the Council Chamber at Whitehall the 27th. of April last, granting a hearing upon the Appeal of Abraham Francis and others in the late Causes between them and the Town in November next, And the same being Read and long Debates had thereupon, A Question was put, Whether the Town would now proceed to the Choice of a Committee to Consider what is best and most proper for the Town to do in this Affair? And it passed in the Affirmative, and that the said Committee Consist of Seven Gentlemen ——— and thereupon

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Voted, That Samuel Welles
Edward Hutchinson
James Allen } Esq^{rs}.
Thomas Cushing &
John Read
Capt. Nathl. Cunningham &
Mr. Charles Apthorp
be the said Committee for the purposes aforesaid, and they are desired to Report hereon at the Adjournment of this Meeting.

Then it was Voted, That this Meeting be Adjourned to Friday the Nineteenth instant, at three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Friday the Nineteenth Day of August, 3 o'Clock in the Afternoon. The Town met according to Adjournment.

The Committee appointed the Fifth instant, to Consider what is best and most proper for the Town to do on the Order of His [3.] Majesty in Council granting a hearing upon the Appeal of Abraham Francis and others in the late Causes between them and the Town in November next, Read a Report they had drawn up, and after long Debates thereupon, It was Voted, That the same Committee be desired more particularly and Specially to draw up Arguments on the Several heads & things mentioned in their Report, and Enlarge thereupon in such manner as they shall think proper and Report hereon at the Adjournment of this Meeting ——— Then

Voted, That this Meeting be Adjourned to Monday the Twelfth Day of September next at Ten o'Clock in the Forenoon.

Monday, the Twelfth Day of September, 10 o'Clock in the Forenoon. The Town met according to Adjournment.

And after a Considerable Debate, Whether the Town would now proceed to determine what they shall do relating to the Causes between the Town and Mr. Everills Heirs or that the same be referred to a further Adjournment.

It was Voted, That the Consideration thereof be referred to the next Adjournment of this Meeting ——— Also

Voted, That the Selectmen be desired to Order & Direct the Several Constables of the Town to Notify the Inhabitants that the said Affair with Mr. Everills Heirs is then to be taken into Consideration & determined upon how the Town will Act in the same, and that every Inhabitant of the Town be desired to give his Attendance, and the Committee are desired then to make their Report ——— then

Voted, That this Meeting be Adjourned to Thursday next at Three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Thursday, the Fifteenth Day of September, 3 o'Clock in the Afternoon, The Town met according to Adjournment.

And after very long Debates had upon the Affair of Francis & Jones's Petition to His Majesty in Council relating to their Causes with the Town, A Question was put, If the Town would now determine Whether they will proceed to a tryal of the Merits of the said Causes with Francis & Jones before His Majesty in Council? And

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it passed in the Affirmative, And that it be determined by a handy Vote, And accordingly upon a Motion made and Seconded the following Question was put, Whether the Towns Agent be Instructed to insist by his Council learned in the Law on the pleas [4.] Against His Majesty in Council his taking Cognizance of Messrs. Abraham Francis John Jones & Hannah his Wife their Claim against the Town and thereon finally Rest.

And it passed in the Affirmative. Then

Voted That Samuel Welles Esqr. and the other Gentlemen of the Towns Committee in this Affair now Subsisting be & hereby are desired and Impowered to prepare as Speedily as may be full and Ample Instructions for the Agent that shall be hose by the Town for his Direction & proceedings in this Affair and Report the same to the Town for their Acceptance as soon as may be ——— Then

Voted, That the Town will proceed to the Choice of an Agent or Agents to Appear for them in this Affair before His Majesty in Council, Tomorrow at Five o'Clock in the Afternoon, and also that the Town shall then take into Consideration what Sums of Money it will be proper for the Town to Raise in this Affair.

Voted, That this Meeting be Adjourned to Tomorrow at Five o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Friday, the Sixteenth Day of September, 5 o'Clock in the Afternoon, The Town met according to Adjournment.

And according to the Vote of Yesterday, the Town having Voted that they'l Choose but One Agent to Appear for them before His Majesty in Council on the Affair of Messrs. Francis & Jones's Petition proceeded to the Choice of a Person for that purpose & were directed to bring in their Votes and upon Sorting the same it Appeared that Christopher Kilby Esqr. was Chosen by a very great Majority.

Mr. Peter Luce of Boston Merchant after the Choice made a Motion that some Papers he had received from St Christophers relating to Mr. Kilby might be Read and being Seconded, A Question was put, Whether the said Papers should be Read, And it passed in the Negative.

Then the Town proceeded to take into Consideration what Sum of Money it will be proper for the Town for the Town to raise in Order to Enable Mr. Agent Kilby to pursue this Affair & after some Debate thereon, It was Voted That the Sum of Three Hundred Pounds Sterling Money of Great Britain be & hereby is granted in Order to Enable the Towns Agent to prosecute the Affair. ——— Afterwards

A Motion was made & Seconded by Several that the said [5.] Vote granting Three Hundred Pounds Sterling might be Reconsidered; And the Question being put, Whether the Town would Reconsider the same, It was Voted in the Negative.

Voted, That the Selectmen be and hereby are desired and Impowered to borrow the said Sum of Three Hundred Pounds Sterling as the same shall be found Necessary & Remit it to Mr. Agent Kilby as soon as may be.

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Voted, That the Selectmen be & hereby are desired to Writ to Mr. Agent Kilby by the first Ship to Inform him what Votes the Town have passed & how far they have proceeded in this Affair & therein Let him know that in Case the Papers and Instructions of the Town should not Arrive to him by the Day of hearing he is desired to pray for further time till he receives them and Strongly Urge and Insist that the Town have not as yet Appeared before His Majesty in Council in this Affair, but that he daily Expects a proper Power from the Town fully Authorizing and Impowering him to Appear and pursue the same.

Voted, That this Meeting be Adjourned to Wednesday next at Four o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Wednesday, the Twenty first Day of September, 4 o'Clock in the Afternoon, The Town met according to Adjournment.

And upon a Motion made & Seconded by Several, A Question was put, Whether this Meeting shall be further Adjourned in Order to receive the Report of the Towns Committee relating to the Affair of Francis & Jones and the Instructions they have prepared for Mr. Agent Kilby concerning the same, And it passed in the Affirmative ——— then it was

Voted That this Meeting be Adjourned till Tomorrow, Three o'Clock in the Afternoon, and the Selectmen are desired to direct & Order that the Several Bells Usually rung for the Town Meetings be rung Tomorrow at Two and Three o'Clock, and that the Selectmen put an Advertisement into the Morrows News Paper to inform the Inhabitants of the Town of this Adjournment.

Thursday, the Twenty Second Day of September, 3 o'Clock in the Afternoon, The Town met according to Adjournment.

And upon a Motion made & Seconded by Several that the Votes already passed by the Town relating to the Petition of Francis & Jones [6.] Might be read, and no Objection made thereto, the same were Read accordingly.

Samuel Welles Esq. and other the Gentlemen of the Towns Committee now Subsisting appointed to Consider what is best & most proper for the Town to do on the Petition of Francis and Jones, presented their Report & the Instructions they had drawn up for the direction of the Agent & the same were Read. And then

A Motion was made & Seconded by many Members that some Person might be joined with Mr. Agent Kilby to Appear for the Town before his Majesty in Council in the Affair of Francis & Jones's Petition to His Majesty, and after some Debate thereon, A Question was put Whether the Town will Reconsider the Vote they passed determining that they would Chose but One Agent, And it passed in the Affirmative. And then a further Question was put Whether the Town will proceed to the Choice of some other Person to be joined in the Agency with Mr. Kilby to Appear before His Majesty in Council in the Affair of Francis & Jones's Petition to His Majesty, And it passed in the Affirmative. And the Town then proceeded to bring in their Votes accordingly and

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upon Sorting the same it Appeared that Eliakim Palmer Esqr. was Chosen by a very great Majority.

Voted, That Christopher Kilby & Eliakim Palmer Esqr. be and hereby are fully Authorized and Impowered Jointly and Severally to Appear for the Town by their Council learned in the Law before His Majesty in Council in the Affair of Messrs. Abraham Francis John Jones & Hannah his Wife's Petition to His Majesty in Council for a hearing of their late Causes with the Town.

A Motion made & Seconded by Several Members that the Vote passed by the Town the 15th. instant Vizt. that the Towns Agent be Instructed to Insist by his Council learned in the Law on the pleas against His Majesty in Council his taking Cognizance of Messrs. Abraham Francis John Jones & Hannah his Wife their Claim against the Town and thereon finally Rest, may be Reconsidered, and after very long Debates thereon.

It was Voted in the Negative.

[7.] Voted, That the Committee be desired to Compleat the Needful Instructions for the Agents in this Affair and Commit them to the Selectmen to be forwarded to the Agents as soon as may be.

Voted, That the Fee to be given to the Council for the Town in London be left to the discretion of the Agents.

Then the Meeting was Dismissed.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly Qualified and lawfully Warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the Twelfth Day of March, A.D. 1743.

Prayer being made by the Reverend Mr. Thomas Prince.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting ——— Read.

The Inhabitants proceeded to the Choice of a Moderator

The Votes being Collected, it Appeared that

The Honble. Thomas Cushing Esqr. was Unanimously Chosen.

Sundry Laws ——— Read.

Ezekiel Goldthwait was Unanimously Chosen Town Clerk for the Year ensuing, and sworn into that Office by Daniel Henchman Esqr.

Sundry Petitions —— Read, Vizt.

of Sundry Inhabitants for a Way from Sudbury Street.

. . . . . for Paving Winter Street.

. . . . . for an Engine at the South End.

. . . . . for a Publick Market at the North End.

of John Swinnerton to keep a School for Reading & Spelling.

of Mr. Abia Holbrook for Inlargement of his Salary.

of M^{r}. John Procter Junr. for an Addition to his Salary.

of M^{r}. Francis Willoughby keeper of the Granary for Addition to his Salary.

of Sundry Bell-ringers for a further Allowance for ringing the Bells.

of the Engine Men to be Excused from other Service, and to have the Premium Continued.

[8.] of M^{r}. Moses Deshon that the Town would Accept of the Arms of Peter Faneuil Esqr. and make him an Allowance for them.

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The General Courts Grant of Six Hundred & Sixty Six Pounds Thirteen Shillings & four pence for Fortifications ——— Read.

The Report of the Committee appointed to Prosecute Encroachers on the South Battery Lands ——— Read.

The Report of the Selectmen on the Visitation of the Schools ——— Read.

A Motion made by Thomas Hutchinson Esqr. to Consider of an Application to be made to the General Court that the Selectmen may be Vested with power more Effectually to put the By-Laws of the Town in Execution.

A Motion made by M^r. Thomas Hancock that the Rails in the Common be Continued as far on Beacon Street as shall be thought Necessary to preserve the Herbage on the Common, and kept in repair at the Expence of the Town.

A Motion made Whether the Fines arising on a Persons refusing to Serve in any Office to which he is Chosen shall be paid in Bills of the Old Tenor, or the same Sum in Lawful Money that is mentioned in the Law.

A Motion made by the Town Treasurer that the Town would determine Whether the Quit Rents due to the Town shall be Discharged by receiving such a Sum in Bills of the Old Tenor, as is mentioned in the Agreement.

A Motion made by Deacon Jonathan Williams that the Moderators Seat may be removed into the Middle of Faneuil Hall.

A Motion made by M^r. Robert Rand that some more Effectual Method may be taken to prevent the firing of Chimneys.

A Motion made by Col^o. Benjamin Pollard that the Town would take Effectual Method to prevent the Destruction & Loss of Fire Buckets, after Fires are Extinguished.

A Motion made Whether the respective Fines & Forfeitures arising to the Town from those Persons who refuse to Serve in the Offices to which they are Chosen & fixed & Set in Bills of the Old Tenor are to be now paid the same Sums in Old Tenor Bills or Lawful Money.

[9.] Voted, to proceed to the Choice of Seven Selectmen.

A Doubt arising Whether by Law the Selectmen & other Officers Chose at the Annual Town Meeting in March, must have a Major part of the Votes brought in for such Choice, or Whether the Persons who have the greatest Number of Votes are not legally Chosen, The Law of the Province relating to the Choice of Town Officers &c. was Read, and after some Debate thereon, It was determined by a Vote that the Town Apprehends the true Sense & meaning of said Law to be, that every Person Voted for to any Office must have a Major part of the Votes brought in, & that otherwise he is not legally Chosen.

The Votes being brought in and Sorted it Appeared that Five Selectmen only were Chosen, Vizt.

Capt. Alexander Forsyth Jonas Clarke Esqr. Mr. Thomas Hancock Capt. John Steel M^r. William Salter	Selectmen.

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Capt. Alexander Forsyth One of the Selectmen informed the Town that he had Served in that Office for about Ten Years past and was Obliged to the Town for the Respect shewn him in Continuing him so long in said Office & prayed the Town would Excuse him from serving any longer——— Voted That the Thanks of the Town be & hereby is given to Capt. Alexander Forsyth for his great Care & Assistance in Transacting the Affairs of the Town as One of the Selectmen for Ten Years past, & that he be Excused accordingly.

The Town then Adjourned to Three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Afternoon, The Town met according to Adjournment.

The Inhabitants were directed to bring in their Votes for the Choice of Three Selectmen, and they being accordingly brought in & Sorted, it Appeared that only One Selectman was Chosen, Vizt.

Thomas Hutchinson Esqr.

Then the Town proceeded to the Choice of Two Selectmen & having brought in their Votes and Sorted 'em, One Selectman only was Chosen. Vizt.

Samuel Adams Esqr.

The Town then proceeded to bring in their Votes for One more [**10.**] Selectman and upon Sorting them it Appeared that

Mr. Middlecott Cooke, was Chosen.

Upon a Motion made & Seconded by many Members,

It was Unanimously Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be and hereby is given to the Honourable John Jeffries Esqr. for the great & faithful Services by him done for the Town in Transacting and Managing the Affairs thereof as One of the Selectmen for Twelve Years past.

The Motion made in the Forenoon relating to Fines &c. now came under Consideration and after some Debate thereon,

Voted, That any Person or Persons Chosen to any Office in the Town for the Year ensuing who in Case of refusal is Obliged to pay any Fine or Penalty shall be Excused from Serving in such Office provided he or they shall Pay their respective Fines in Bills of the Old Tenor as the Several Persons did who were the last Year elected and refused to Serve.

Voted, To Choose Twelve Constables distinct from Collectors of Taxes, accordingly

Messrs. Nathaniel Allen	Pay	Constables.
Joseph How	Pay	
Stephen Apthorp	Sworn	
John Dennie Junr.	Pay	
Stephen Hall	Pay	
James Perkins	Pay	
Josiah Fessenden	Sworn	
Thomas Speakman	Sworn	
John Rowe	Pay	
Lemuel Gowen	Pay	
George Bethune	Excus'd	
Isaac Savage	Sworn	

were Chosen Constables.

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Voted That the Town proceed to the Choice of a County Treasurer Tomorrow at Twelve o'Clock.

Then the Town Adjourned till Tomorrow Nine o'Clock A.M.

Tuesday March. 13. 1743.

The Town being Assembled according to Adjournment.

The Inhabitants were directed to bring in their Votes for [11.] Six Constables, accordingly

Messrs.	Samuel Gardner	Pay	Constables.
	Joseph Grant Junr.	Pay	
	James Monk p^{d}. in	1740	
	Josiah Quincy	Pay	
	Joseph Ballard	Pay	
	Jonathan Tilden	Excused	

were Chosen Constables.

A Motion was made by Col^{o}. Jacob Wendell that the Town would immediately proceed to the Choice of a Town Treasurer which was accordingly Voted, and the Inhabitants directed to bring in their Votes, which being Collected & Sorted it Appeared that

The Honble. Joseph Wadsworth Esqr. was Chosen by a great Majority & was accordingly Sworn in to said Office by the Honble. Jacob Wendell Esqr.

The following Gentlemen were Chosen Overseers of the Poor for the Year ensuing, Vizt.

The Honble. Jacob Wendell Esqr.	Overseers of the Poor.
William Tyler Esqr.	
Col^{o}. John Hill	
Thomas Hubbard Esqr.	
Daniel Henchman Esqr.	
Mr. Edward Bromfield	
Col^{o}. William Downe	
Andrew Oliver Esqr.	
Capt. John Phillips	
M^{r}. Isaac Walker	
George Rogers Esqr.	
M^{r}. Ebenezer Storer	

Messrs.	Jonathan Simpson Junr.	Pay	Constables.
	Ezekiel Lewis Junr.	Pay	
	Samuel Sewall	Pay	
	John Gore	Pay	
	Albert Dennie	Pay	
	John Ridgaway	Sworn	

were Chosen Constables.

Voted, That the Town proceed to the Choice of Three Collectors of the Rates and Taxes for the Year ensuing [12.] And upon bringing in the Votes & Sorting them it Appeared that,

Capt. John Goldthwait	Collectors of Taxes.
Mr. John Staniford, and	
Mr. Jacob Sheafe	

were Chosen Collectors of Taxes accordingly.

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Messrs.	Samuel Gerrish	Pay	Constables.
	William Codner	Pay	
	Samuel Service	Pay	

were Chosen Constables.

The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for a County Treasurer which being Collected were according to Law Sealed up by Constable Savage by him to be kept & returned to the next Quarter Sessions to be held for the County of Suffolk.

Voted, That the Several Collectors of Taxes within this Town bring in Lists of the Names of all such Persons as have not paid in their Taxes at the Adjournment of this Meeting.

Then the Town, Adjourned to Three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Afternoon, The Town being Assembled according to Adjournment.

The Petition of the Engine Men praying they may be Excused from Duty & have the Premium of Five Pounds Old Tenor Allowed to the Engine that shall be first brought to Work upon any Building on Fire may be still Continued, Read & Voted That the Prayer of the Petition be Granted, provided they Carry their Axe & Hook with them to the Fire.

Also Voted That all such Persons as now do or hereafter shall belong to any of the Fire Engines in this Town be & hereby are Freed and Exempted from all such Dutys and Service (during such time as they shall belong to any Engine) as the Town hath Excused them from for Several Years, & that the Premium of Five Pounds Old Tenor be Allowed to the first Engine that shall be brought to & Work on any Building on Fire, provided they carry their Axe & Hook with them to the Fire.

This Order to Continue & be in force until the Town shall See fit to Alter or Disannul the same.

[13.]

Messrs.	James Tileston	Pay	Constables.
	Samuel Adams	Pay	
	Benjamin Harrod	Excus'd	
	James Alexander	Pay	
	Daniel Williams	Pay	
	Richard Atkins	Sworn	

were Chosen Constables.

Messrs.	Onesiphorus Tileston	Pay	Constables.
	Michael Homer	Sworn	
	John Williams	Sworn	
	Joseph Grouard	Excused	

were Chosen Constables.

Messrs.	William Baker	Pay	Constables.
	Samuel Emmes	Sworn	
	Thomas Coverly	Pay	
	Richard Hughes	refuses, Appeal to the Sessions	

were Chosen Constables.

An Act or Law of this Province made and passed at the Session of the Great and General Court in May last Entitled An Act for Impowering the Town of Boston to Impose & Collect a Tax or Duty on Coaches Chaises &c. for the Use and Service of said

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Town, refer'd over to this time for Consideration, now came under Debate and after a long time Spent thereon A Question was put Whether the Town will now Dismiss this Affair without any further Consideration ———

It pass'd in the Affirmative. ———

The Petition of Sundry Inhabitants relating to the Opening of the North Market as Read at the Opening of the Meeting now came under Consideration and after some Debate thereon, It was Moved that the same may be refer'd to the next General Town Meeting for Consideration, And a Question being put Whether the same be refer'd accordingly —— It passed in the Negative ——— And then a further Question was put, Whether the Selectmen be desired to take down the Building formerly Improved for the North Market & dispose of it in such a manner as shall be most for the Advantage of the Town? And it passed in the Affirmative.

[14.] The Motion made by Thomas Hutchinson Esqr. at the Opening of the Meeting that the Town would Consider of an Application to be made to the General Court that the Selectmen may be Vested with power more Effectually to put the By Laws of the Town in Execution, now came under Consideration & after some Debate thereon ——— It was Moved & Voted That the same be refer'd to the next General Town Meeting and that in the mean time the Selectmen be desired to prepare a Draft of a Law for the purposes aforesaid and present the same at said Meeting for the Consideration of the Town.

The Motion made by the Town Treasurer at the Opening of the Meeting concerning his receiving of the Quit Rents due to the Town, now came under Consideration —— And it was

Voted That the same be refer'd to the General Town Meeting in March next.

The Selectmens Report on Mr. FrancisWilloughbys Account of the Granary for the Year past & as Entred in his Book —— Read and Voted That the said Report be Accepted and accordingly that he be farther Accountable for Three Hundred & Thirty Bushels of Corn & Thirty three Bushels of Rye and the Sum of Six Hundred & Twenty One Pounds Nineteen Shillings & three pence in Bills of Credit of the Old Tenor which remains in his hands Exclusive of Mr. Willoughbys Salary for the Year past, Vizt. One Hundred Pounds Old Tenor which is hereby also Allowed.

The Petition of Mr. Francis Willoughby keeper of the Granary Read at the Opening of the Meeting, Praying an Allowance may be made him for his Extraordinary Attendance of One Day in a Week at the Granary pursuant to the Towns Vote, now came under Consideration, and after some Debate thereon ———

Voted That the Sum of Fifty Pounds Old Tenor be Allowed to Mr. Francis Willoughby for his Extraordinary Attendance the Year past. Also Voted That for the future the Granary be Opened only on Tuesdays & Fridays and that he then give his Attendance accordingly.

The Committee appointed by the Town the Fourteenth Day of May A.D. 1742. to Prosecute Encroachers on the South Battery Lands, made Report, which was Read & is as follows, Vizt.

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[15.] The Report, of the Committee appointed by the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston at their Adjournment on the Fourteenth Day of May 1742. to End the Controversy between the Town and such Persons as they should find had Incroached or Trespassed on any of the Lands or Flatts where the Guns were formerly Mounted, at the South Battery, having Attended that Service do Report as follows ——— Vizt.

The said Committee having found by many Evidences that the Honble. Jacob Wendell Esqr. doth Improve about One Hundred & Fifty feet of the Ground where the Line of Guns was formerly Mounted, and has Erected or Built a Wharfe and Warehouses on said Ground and Flatts before it, and now Claims the same, as his own property, In Order to Recover the same for the Use of the Town, to be Improved as formerly the said Committee did Advise with Gentlemen learned in the Law who assured them that as the King had for many Years Improved that same Land and Flatts for a Fortification, and had never Released it or given it up that the said Committee could do nothing on the part of the King, by way of Reference or Accommodation with the said Jacob Wendell Esqr. for that the King referr'd none of his Affairs, but that His Majesty's Title, must be Tryed in the Law, before any thing could be done on the part of the Town, the said Committee therefore Employed John Overing and Jeremy Gridley Esq^rs^. for their Council who filed an information or Complaint against the said Jacob Wendell Esqr. at the Superiour Court of Judicature, Court of Assize &c. held at Boston in February. 1742. for not removing those Incumbrances from off said Battery Ground, which Complaint was Continued to the Superiour Court in August following, when a Tryal was had on the Information aforesaid, before a Jury of Non Residents who went and Viewed the Premisses, and altho' there was a Cloud of Evidence to prove the Facts, And the said Jacob Wendell Esqr. Acknowledged before the Jury, that he had Built upon part of the Towns Ground and Flatts, Yet the said Jury brought in their Verdict that he was not Guilty, and accordingly the said Complaint was Dismissed by the Court on the part of the King, which made many People think that it went at the same time also against the Town, and that the Committee ought not to proceed any further in this Affair, but the Committee knowing that the Way [16.] Was now Clear for coming to an Accommodation with the said Jacob Wendell Esqr. in the behalf of the Towns Right to the aforesaid Land, They did desire by their Chairman that he would give them a Meeting in Order to Referr or Accommodate the Dispute between him and the Town, but he utterly refuses to Transact any Affair with this Committee (for reasons best known to himself) The Committee therefore Seeing no Prospect of Settling the Towns Rights, with said Jacob Wendell Esqr. without going further into the Law, which they are unwilling to do, without the Towns Especial Order, They therefore think it proper to Acquaint the Town that they have proceeded thus far and Submit it to the Inhabitants for their further Consideration.

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Boston March 10th. 1743. John Steel, Shem Drowne, Jon^a. Williams } Committee.

And after a long Debate had upon the said Report,

It was Moved and Voted That the Selectmen be & hereby are desired to Conferr with the said Jacob Wendell Esqr. in Order to come to an Accommodation relating to the Lands in Dispute between him and the Town at the South Battery and Report of their Doings herein as soon as may be.

Whereas Messrs. John Goldthwait John Staniford & Jacob Sheafe Collectors of the Publick Taxes in this Town are Indebted Considerable Sums of Money to the Province Treasurer for Taxes due to the said Treasurer from this Town & Committed to them to Collect from the Inhabitants of the Town ——— Therefore

Voted That the said Collectors be & hereby are Obliged to make up & Compleat the Payment of all such Sums as are now due from them or either of them to the Province Treasurer in Six Months time from this Day, And in Case either of the said Collectors shall fail Paying into the Province Treasurer by that time, the whole Sum he is now Indebted to him, such Collector so failing shall not be Entitled to any part of the Allowance that may be Voted him for Collecting such part of the Taxes of the Town for the Year. 1743. as shall be Committed to him to Collect.

Then the Consideration of the Allowance of the Collectors of Taxes came on and after a Short Debate.

[17.] It was Voted, That Twelve pence on the Pound be & hereby is Allowed to be paid to the Several Collectors of Taxes within this Town for the Year ensuing, they paying into the Town Treasurer One half part of the Sums to be by them respectively Collected within Six Months from the time they shall receive the Books from the Assessors, & the other half part in Six Months after, and also make up & Compleat the Payment of the whole Sum due to the Province Treasurer (Saving One Thousand Pounds Old Tenor in the whole, to be Accounted in proportion to the Sums they are to receive) in Twelve Months time from their receiving the said Books from the Assessors, And in Case either of them shall fail paying the Province and Town Treasurer in the above manner the Collector so failing shall Forfeit the aforesaid Allowance of Twelve pence on the Pound for the Sum he was to Collect and Pay in manner as aforesaid, Provided also that the said Collectors give Bond with Sufficient Suretys for the faithful Discharge of their Office to the Satisfaction of the Selectmen.

Also Voted, That the said Collectors & each of them return to the Annual Town Meeting in March next, a List of the Names of all such Persons as may not then have paid their Taxes.

Then the Town Adjourned till Tomorrow at Nine o'Clock A.M.

Wednesday March. 14th. 1743.

The Town met according to Adjournment.

The Report of the Selectmen on the Visitation of the Publick Schools ——— Read, and is as follows, Vizt.

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To the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of Boston, in Town Meeting Assembled, March 12. 1743.

Pursuant to a Vote of the Town of Boston at their Annual Meeting the Fourteenth of March last past Desiring the Selectmen to Visit the Several Publick Schools in the Town & to Desire such Gentlemen to Accompany them therein as they should think proper and to Report thereon ——— We the Subscribers accordingly Attended that Service on Wednesday the Twenty Second Day of June last, Accompanied by the following Gentlemen, Vizt.

The Hon. John Read Esqr.
The Hon. Thomas Cushing Esqr.
[18.] The Hon. Nathaniel Hubbard Esqr.
The Rev^{d}. Charles Chauncy D.D.
The Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Samuel Mather
The Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Andrew Eliot
Daniel Henchman Esqr.
M^{r}. Timothy Prout
Andrew Oliver Esqr.
James Bowdoin Esqr.
Joshua Winslow Esqr. and
Henry Frankland Esqr.

and found the said Schools under good Regulation, The Number of Scholars in each School were as follows, Vizt. In the South Grammar School about Ninety, In the South Writing School One Hundred & Sixty, In the Writing School in Queen Street about Seventy, In the North Grammar School Sixty five, And in the North Writing School upwards of Two Hundred.

JOHN JEFFRIES
ALEX^{R}. FORSYTH
JONAS CLARKE
THO^{S}. HUTCHINSON } Selectmen
THOMAS HANCOCK
MIDDLECOTT COOKE
JOHN STEEL

Voted That this Report be Accepted, & that the Gentlemen the Selectmen be desired to Visit the Publick Schools the Year ensuing, and that they desire such Gentlemen to Accompany them therein as they shall think proper, and Report thereon

Messrs. Thomas Sherburn Sworn } Constables.
Richard Humphreys Excused

were Chosen Constables

Voted That the Selectmen Wait upon His Excellency the Captain General to desire of him that he will be pleased to give Orders to the Commanding Officer of the Troop of Guards to Return into the Secretarys Office a List of the Names of all such Persons as belong to said Troop and do Duty therein that so the Town may know what Persons are Exempted from Serving in the respective Offices to which they are Chosen.

Mr. George Gerrish was Chosen Constable. Sworn.

[19.] On a Motion made and Seconded, that some Suitable time may be Allowed the Assessors to Sit upon Abatements ——

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It was Voted, That the said Assessors be Allowed to Sit upon Abatements until the last Day of September next, and no longer.

Voted That the Consideration of Mr. John Staniford's Allowance for Officiating as Clerk of the Market for the Year past be refer'd to the next General Town Meeting.

Messrs. Joseph Russell		Fence Viewers.
James Tileston	Sworn	
Francis Wardell	Sworn	
Hopestill Foster	Sworn	
Caleb Ray	Sworn	
Thomas Foster		
William Bearsto	Sworn	
Joshua Thornton	Sworn	
William Thwing	Sworn	
Stephen Willis		
John Adams	Sworn	
Samuel Sprague	Sworn	

were Chosen Fence Viewers for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Benjamin Renken		Scavingers.
John Ruddock		
William Young (Retailer)		
Thomas Lee		
Nathaniel Barber		
Joseph Goldthwait		
Nathaniel Gardner		
Joseph Jackson (Hatter)		
Nathaniel Thayer		
Ellis Wilson		
Edward Winter		
Bartholomew Cheever		
John Taylor		

were Chosen Scavingers for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Joseph Bradford	Sworn	Hogreves.
Thomas Newman	Sworn	
Edward Jennings	Sworn	
Phillips Chamberlain	Sworn	

were Chosen Hogreves for the Year ensuing.

[20.] Messrs. William Nesbitt	Pay	Sealers of Leather.
William Browne	Excused	
Samuel May	Sworn	
Josiah Carter		
Nathaniel Hodgdon	Sworn	
Robert Williams		
John Allen	Sworn	

were Chosen Sealers of Leather for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Richard Buckley	Sworn	Assessors.
Peter Thomas		
Joshua Blanchard	Sworn	
Jacob Parker	Sworn	
Daniel Pecker	Sworn	
Nathaniel Barber	Sworn	
William Fairfield	Sworn	

were Chosen Assessors for the Year ensuing.

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Mr. Isaac Gridley was Chosen Surveyor of Hemp and Flax for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Nathaniel Gardner Sworn } Informers abt. Deer.
Richard Hubbard Sworn }

were Chosen to inform against & prosecute the Violaters of the Act for the better Preservation and Increase of Deer within this Province.

Mr. Richard Carter-Cowell was Chosen Haward for the Year ensuing ——— Sworn ———

Voted That the Selectmen be Surveyors of the High Ways for the Year ensuing. ———

A Motion was made, Whether the Town will Choose Tything Men, but nothing done in the Affair. ———

On a Motion made that the Town would now proceed to Choose the Clerk of Faneuil Hall Market for the Year ensuing, it was Voted and the Inhabitants were directed to bring in their Votes accordingly, And upon Collecting & Sorting the same it Appeared that Mr. John Staniford was Chosen to that Office.

The Petition of the Abutters and Proprietors of Land in Winter Street, Setting forth, That the Town at their Meeting the Thirteenth of March. 1731. Voted That the Selectmen take Care that the Towns part of the said Street be repaired at the Cost and Charge of [21.] The Town, the Several Abutters paying their proportionable part as is Customary, That the Abutters on the said Street could not then Accomplish the Paving thereof by reason the Hon. Adam Winthrop Esqr. Decēd who was an Abutter upon near One quarter part of the said Street would Subscribe thereto, but now Mr. Thomas Oxnard who hath Purchased Colo. Winthrops Estate there, and all the Abutters are ready to pay their proportionable part of the Charge of Paving the said Street provided the Town will pay their part thereof The Petitioners therefore Prayed the Town would Revive their said Vote & Engage to Pay the Towns part of Paving the said Street, upon the Abutters paying their proportionable part thereof as is Customary ——— now came under Consideration And after some Debate thereon ———

It was Voted That the same be refer'd to the Selectmen who are hereby desired to View the said Street and Report the Circumstances thereof at the Adjournment of this Meeting.

The Memorial of Moses Deshon read at the Opening of the Meeting, Setting forth, That he by the Encouragement of Several Gentlemen about Fourteen Months since began to Cut the Arms of their Late Generous Benefactor Peter Faneuil Esqr. and soon after his Death the same was Compleatly Finished & Gilt, And the Memorialist Waited on the Selectmen to know if they would Accept of the same to be fixed in Faneuil Hall at the Expence of the Town, but they Apprehended it was a Matter they could not do without the Consent of the Town, The Memorialist therefore informed that he was at a Considerable Expence of Time and Money to Cut & Gild the said Arms, and as the Fixing of it in Faneuil Hall will not only be a great Ornament to the Room but a means of Perpetuating the Memory of the Worthy & Generous Donor ——— The Memorialist therefore prayed the Town to Accept

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of the same & Order it to be placed in such part of the Hall as they shall think proper, making him such an Allowance for the same as shall by the Town be thought reasonable —— was now taken into Consideration ——— and

Voted That the Selectmen be desired to Purchase the said Arms of the said Mr. Deshon at the Expence of the Town on such Terms as shall be thought reasonable & Fix them up in Faneuil Hall in such part thereof as they shall think most proper. ———

On the Motion made by Mr. Thomas Hancock One of the Selectmen at the Opening of this Meeting that the Rails in the Common be [22.] Continued as far on Beacon Street as shall be thought Necessary to preserve the Herbage in the Common & kept in repair at the Expence of the Town now came under Consideration ———

And after a short Debate, It was Voted That the Selectmen be desired to Continue a Post and Rail Fence extending from the Alms House Westward so far as they shall think proper for the Preservation of the Herbage &c: in the Common, and Repair the same from time to time as shall be thought Necessary.

The Petition of a Number of the Inhabitants of the Town Read at the Opening of the Meeting, Setting forth, That inasmuch as the Petitioners the better to Commode the Town and render the more Easy carriage of the Necessaries of Life did some time since lay out a Peice of Land of Twenty feet Wide from Sudbury Street running on a Line along by the Mill Pond to Capt. Wells's Sugarhouse and from thence to Hawkins's Street so Called which has been and still is of great Advantage & Benefit to the Town & as the same is Convenient & fit to make a Publick Street off, they prayed the Town would be pleased to Accept of the said Peice of Land for a Publick Street and give it the Name of Still house Square ———The said Petition was now taken into Consideration ——— And after some Debate thereon, ———

It was Voted That the Selectmen be desired to View the Land Petitioned for to be a Highway & Report the Circumstances thereof at the next General Town Meeting, And also make an Estimate of the Costs that may Accrue to the Town in repairing it if they Accept of the same as a Highway.

The Petition of Isaac Peirce, Thomas Williston, Nathaniel Band, Joseph Simpson & John Roulstone Sextons & Bellringers in the Town as Read at the Opening of the Meeting, Setting forth That the Petitioner Peirce Rings the Bell of the Old North Church at the Hours of One o'Clock at Noon, Nine in the Evening & Five in the Morning, for which he is Allowed by the Town Four Pounds Ten Shillings Old Tenor for a Quarter of a Year, The Petitioner Band Rings the Bell of the New South Church at the Hours of Nine in the Evening & Five in the Morning for which he is Allowed Fifty Shillings Old Tenor a Quarter, The Petitioner Simpson Rings the Bell of the Revd. Mr. Byles's Church at the Hours of Nine in the Evening, Five in the Morning & One o'Clock at Noon, for which he is Allowed Three Pounds Fifteen Shillings Old Tenor a [23.] Quarter, That the Petitioner Roulstone Rings the Bell of the Old South Church at One o'Clock for which he is Allowed

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Thirty Shillings Old Tenor a Quarter, That the Petitioner Williston Rings the Bell of the Old Brick Church at the Hours of Five in the Morning, Eleven in the Forenoon and Nine in the Evening, for which he is Allowed Four Pounds Ten Shillings Old Tenor a Quarter, That the Petitioners would Represent to the Town that the aforesaid Allowance for the Service aforesaid is so very small, being but about Three pence Old Tenor for each Ringing, that the Petitioners Apprehend they are not by any means Recompenced for their Time & Service and as the Petitioners Allowance is no greater now than has been for about Thirty Years past and Provisions & all Necessarys of Life more than twice as Dear as they were Thirty Years since, they Apprehended the Town would think it reasonable to Increase their Allowance ——— They therefore Prayed the Town to take the Premisses into Consideration and make them such further Allowance for the aforesaid Services as shall be thought reasonable ——— which Petition was Read again & after some Debate thereon,

Voted That the Selectmen be desired to Consider thereof, as also what further Regulation is proper to be made as . . . . . to the Ringing of the Bells, and of the Allowance to be made to the Sextons for the same.

Upon a Motion made & Seconded, That the Town would Consider of some Effectual means to prevent Frauds in the Measure of Cord wood.

Voted That there be a Committee Chosen specially to Consider this Motion, and that the said Committee Consist of Five Persons

———

Voted That Messrs. John Darrell, John Ruddock, Robert Rand, Joseph Bradford & Jacob Parker } Committee.

be a Committee for that End, who are desired to make Report herein at the next General Town Meeting.

Upon the Motion made by M^r. Robert Rand at the Opening of the Meeting, that some more Effectual Method may be taken by the Town to prevent the frequent Firing of Chimneys ———

[24.] Voted, That the Committee already Chosen to Consider of some Effectual means to prevent Frauds in the Measure of Cordwood, be also a Committee to Consider what Method the Town shall take to prevent the frequent Firing of Chimneys and Report hereon at the next General Town Meeting.

Voted, That this Meeting be Adjourned to Thursday the Twenty Second Instant, at Three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Thursday March. 22^d. 1743.

The Town being Assembled according to Adjournment.

The Honble. Thomas Cushing Esqr. the Moderator of this Meeting Sent Word that he could not Attend the Business of this Meeting this Afternoon being Obliged to Attend the Honourable House of Representatives ——— Whereupon the Town proceeded to Choose a Moderator in his room —— And the Honble. Edward Hutchinson

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Esqr. being Nominated he was accordingly Chosen as Moderator of this Meeting.

Mr. Benjamin White was Chosen Constable. Sworn.

The Selectmen informed the Town that the Lease of the South Market hired of Mr. Willis will Expire the Twenty fifth instant, desiring the Directions of the Town relating to the Disposal of the Buildings on it, after some Debate thereon, the Town Apprehend that as the prudential Affairs of the Town are Committed to the Care and Management of the Selectmen they will do herein what will be most for for the Advantage of the Town either by removing the Buildings that are upon the said Leased Land or Disposing of the same as they now Stand. ———

The Report of the Selectmen on the Petition of Sundry Inhabitants for the Paving of Winter Street, Read and is as follows, Vizt.

To the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of Boston in Town Meeting Assembled by Adjournment, March. 22^{d}. 1743.

Pursuant to a Vote of the Town the 12th. instant desiring the Selectmen to View Winter Street Petitioned for by a Number of Proprietors & Abutters to be Paved &c. and Report thereon.

We the Subscribers accordingly Attended that Service and are of Opinion that it is Necessary the said Street should be Paved and the Town pay their Part there of according to Custom [**25.**] Which We Apprehend will be about Two Hundred and Sixty Pounds Old Tenor ——— All which is Submitted by

Boston March. 21. 1743.

SAMUEL ADAMS
JONAS CLARKE
THOMAS HANCOCK
MIDDLECOTT COOKE
} Selectmen

Voted, That this Report be Accepted, and that the Selectmen do accordingly take Care for the Paving the Towns part thereof, provided the Petitioners or Abutters or some of them become Obliged to the Selectmen for Defraying the other Two thirds parts thereof, the said Work to be performed according to the Directions of the Selectmen.

Voted, That the Petitions of Messrs. John Swinnerton, Abia Holbrook and John Procter Junr. Read at the Opening of this Meeting be refer'd to the next General Town Meeting for Consideration.

The Vote of the Council and Representatives of this Province the Eleventh of November last, Desiring His Excellency the Captain General, to give Orders that within Twelve Months there be Erected within the Town of Boston Another good and Sufficient Brest Work and a Platform Built and not less than Twelve Guns Eighteen Pounders or others Equivalent Mounted and all Suitable Warlike Stores procured and that the Sum of Six Hundred & Sixty Six Pounds Thirteen Shillings & four pence be Granted and Allowed to be paid out of the Publick Treasury to the Order of the said Town of Boston they giving Security to the Province Treasurer for the Erecting said Works and procuring said Stores, and that the same shall be from time to time Maintained or on the failure either of their performing said Works or Maintaining them, the Money thereby granted to be repaid by said Town into the Province Treasury —— Read, & after some Debate thereon ———

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Voted That the Selectmen be & hereby are Appointed a Committee to take the aforesaid Grant into Consideration & Report at the next General Town Meeting what they Apprehend will be most for the Advantage of the Town to do in this Affair. ———

It being Represented to the Town by some of the Inhabitants that there is Considerable Sums of Money due from the Several Collectors of the Publick Taxes of the Town to the Province Treasurer.

[26.] Voted, That a Committee be Chosen to Examine what Sums are now due from the said Collectors and each of them to the Province Treasurer, and also that the said Committee Examine the said Collectors Books in Order to know what Sums are due to them from the Inhabitants of the Town ———

Voted, That the said Committee Consist of Three Persons & that,

Messrs. Isaac Walker, Thomas Greene & Jeremiah Allen } Committee.

be a Committee for the purposes aforesaid, and the said Committee are desired to make Report of their doings herein at the next General Town Meeting.

Mr. William Brown who was Chosen a Sealer of Leather at this Meeting desires to be Excused, he being Bound to Great Britain with his Family in about Two Months time ——

Voted, That the said William Brown be Excused accordingly.

Upon a Motion made and Seconded ——

Voted That Three more Sealers of Leather be Chosen for the Year ensuing, and

Messrs. James Griffin, Andrew Eliot & Thomas Salter } Sealers of Leather.

were Chosen accordingly.

Messrs. Nathaniel Barber	Sworn	Clerks of the Market.
Jeremiah Belknap	Sworn	
Thomas Salter	Sworn	
Nathaniel Gardner	Sworn	
Joseph Fitch		
William Merchant	Sworn	
John Darrell	Sworn	
Robert Rand		
Thomas Stoddard	Sworn	
Daniel Pecker		
Joseph Bradford	Sworn	
Samuel Parkman	Sworn	

were Chosen Clerks of the Market for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Jeremiah Belknap, John Salter, and Deacon Samuel Bridgham } Com^tee. for Purchasing Grain.

[27.] Were Chosen a Committee for Purchasing Grain, and they are hereby desired and Impowered to give all Needful Directions to the Keeper of the Granary respecting the Quantities of Grain to be Sold and Setting the Price thereof from time to time.

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Messrs.	John Helyer	Sworn	Cullers of Staves & Hoops.
	Harvey Thomas	Sworn	
	John Hobbs	Sworn	
	David Kent		
	Thomas Sargent	Sworn	
	Richard Barnard	Sworn	
	Barratt Dyre		
	John Marshall		
	Isaac Dafforne		
	Richard Hubbard		

were Chosen Cullers of Staves and Hoops for the Year ensuing.

Messrs.	Thomas Foster	Sworn	Viewers of Shingles &c.
	Edward Moberly	Sworn	
	Isaac Vergoose	Sworn	
	Edward Richards	Sworn	
	William Paine	Sworn	
	Benjamin Russell	Sworn	
	Joseph White	Sworn	
	Matthew Barnard	Sworn	
	John Lewis Vintenon	Sworn	
	James Barnard	Sworn	
	Samuel Hood	Sworn	
	William Parkman	Sworn	

were Chosen Surveyors of Timber Boards Shingles &c. for the Year ensuing.

Deacon Jonathan Williams desires to Withdraw his Motion made at the Opening of the Meeting relating to the removing of the Moderators Seat into the Middle of Faneuil Hall, which was accordingly Allowed him. ———

Voted, That the Consideration of Raising Money be refer'd to the Next General Town Meeting. — Also

Voted, That all the Business and Matters of this Meeting now Unfinished be refer'd to the next General Town Meeting for Consideration

Then the Meeting was Dismissed.

[28.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly Qualified and. lawfully Warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the Sixteenth Day of April. A.D. 1744.

The Warrant for Calling the Meeting —— Read.

The Town proceeded to Choose a Moderator by a handy Vote And the Honble. Edward Hutchinson Esqr. being Nominated he was accordingly Chosen Moderator of this Meeting.

The Committee appointed the last General Town Meeting to Examine what Sums are due from the Collectors of the Publick Taxes and each of them to the Province Treasurer, And Also to Examine the Collectors Books in Order to know what Sums are due to them from the Inhabitants of the Town, Informed the Town that upon Enquiry they found there was due from the said Collectors to the Province Treasurer for the Years, 1741 and 1742. about Nineteen Thousand Pounds Old Tenor, but that they were

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not yet ready to make Report having not had time to Examine the Collectors Books. ———

The Selectmen Acquainted the Town that they had received from London by the last Ship Two Letters, One from Christopher Kilby Esqr. the other from Eliakim Palmer Esqr. Agents for the Town of Boston relating to the Towns Causes with Francis, Jones &c. which they were ready to Communicate if the Town thinks proper.

The Committee appointed by Commission from His Excellency the Captain General the fourteenth of June A.D. 1742. to repair the Batterys or Fortifications within the Town of Boston ——— Reported how far they had proceeded therein and the present State of the same, which was Read and is as follows, Vizt.

The Report of the Committee appointed the Fourteenth of June, A.D. 1742. to Repair the Batterys or Fortifications within the Town of Boston, how far they have proceeded therein and the present State of the same ——— Vizt.

The said Committee at the North Battery have Built a New Front with large Flat Stones about Two Hundred feet in Length Eleven feet high, Ten feet Wide at the Bottom running up Battering to the Top to about Seven feet in Wedth, At the North-east Corner a head Carried out to the Channel of about Fifty four feet, with a Wall about Thirteen feet high to join the other Work; The Old [29.] Wharfe Wood of which the Battery was Built being Worm Eaten & Rotten was taken up to the Foundation in part And the whole laid down Anew with large Ton Timber well loaded with Stones about Fifty four feet Wide: Upon the Stone Work the Work is carried up with large Ton Timber Seven feet high well Dovetail'd and joined together, and a Platform for the Guns laid upon large Timber with good Sound Pine Plank of Three inches thick Cut on purpose, and from thence a Brest Work Carried up with Ton Timber of Five feet Wide and about Two feet and an half high, the Old Wharfe leading to the Battery being broken up by the late Storm is Rebuilt from the Foundation. This Battery when finished will Accommodate Twenty Guns Fifteen of which will point directly down the Channel; the Charge of Carrying on the Work so far as is done Amounts to about Eight Thousand Two Hundred & Eighty Seven Pounds Seven Shillings & four pence Old Tenor, of which is already paid to the Workmen & for Materials Seven Thousand Four Hundred & Eighty Seven Pounds Seven Shillings and four pence, And there still remains due to Sundry Persons about Eight Hundred Pounds Old Tenor. ——

The Work still to be done, Vizt. the Brest Work to be Carried up about Four feet higher which will take about One Hundred Ton of Timber, Ports to be made, A Covering over them to be Shingled, the Front of the Brest Work to be Boarded the Northerly part to be raised which will take about Fifty Ton of Timber, besides Stone & Plank, A Fence to be made, A Small house for the Stores with a Centry Box, All Sorts of Stores, Vizt. Shot &c. New Trucks for the Carriages with other Jobbs which will Amount to about Two Thousand Pounds Old Tenor.

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At the South Battery, the Committee have thoroughly repaired the Sconce by carrying up the Stone & Brick Wall which was decayed and broken down, New Covering & Shingling the House, Making New Windows Doors & Floors, Fit to receive Stores & preserve the Shot &c. that is now there, Mounting the Guns on the Carriages, the which Cost & is paid Five Hundred & Nine Pounds One Shilling & Eight pence Old Tenor ——

To Carry on the projected Battery its judged it will Cost about Eight or Ten Thousand Pounds Old Tenor for which the Province has granted Two Thousand Six Hundred & Sixty Six Pounds Thirteen Shillings and four pence Old Tenor, and which now lyes before the Town for their Acceptance upon the Conditions mentioned in the said Grant. ——

All which is humbly Submitted by

THOMAS HANCOCK	JOHN JEFFRIES	Committee.
MIDDLECOTT COOKE	ALEX^r. FORSYTH	
JOHN STEEL	JONAS CLARKE	

Boston April. 16. 1744.

[30.] The Vote of the Council and House of Representatives of the Eleventh of November last Desiring His Excellency the Captain General to give Orders that within Twelve Months there be Erected within the Harbour of Boston Another good and Sufficient Brest Work & a Platform Built and not less than Twelve Guns Eighteen Pounders or others Equivalent Mounted and all Suitable Warlike Stores procured, and that the Sum of Six Hundred & Sixty Six Pounds Thirteen Shillings & four pence be Granted and Allowed to be paid out of the Publick Treasury to the Order of the said Town of Boston they giving Security to the Province Treasurer for the Erecting said Works and procuring said Stores, and that the same shall be from time to time Maintained or on the failure either of their performing said Works or Maintaining them, the Money thereby granted to be repaid by said Town into the Province Treasury again — And to which His Excellency Consented —— being Read.

The Town immediately proceeded to take the same into Consideration and after long Debates thereon. ——

A Motion was made and Seconded that the Town would Reconsider a Vote by them passed at the last General Town Meeting appointing the Selectmen a Committee to take the said Grant into Consideration and Report what they Apprehend will be most for the Advantage of the Town to do in this Affair, the said Committee having yet done Nothing thereon ——

And it was accordingly Voted That the same be Reconsidered,

Then a Motion was made & Seconded that the Town would immediately proceed to Vote, Whether they will Accept of the aforesaid Grant of the General Court on the Conditions therein mentioned, And a Question being accordingly put, ——

It was Voted That the said Grant be & hereby is Accepted on the Conditions therein mentioned —— Also

Voted That the Selectmen be desired on the behalf of the Town to give Security to the Province Treasurer in the manner required by the Grant of the General Court & thereupon receive the said

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Money of the said Province Treasurer and pay the same unto the Town Treasurer to by by him kept and paid out unto such Persons as the Selectmen shall Order upon Drafts by them made for that purpose.

[31.] A Motion was made and Seconded that the Sum of Ten Thousand Pounds Old Tenor may be raised by a Tax upon the Inhabitants in Order to Carry on the Batterys or Fortifications within the Town, but the same being Opposed by Several of the Inhabitants who Moved that only the Sum of Six Thousand Pounds Old Tenor may be Raised for that purpose, A previous Question was put, Whether the Town will now proceed to raise any Certain Sum of Money for Fortifying the Town, And it passed in the Affirmative —— Then

Voted That the Sum of Ten Thousand Pounds Old Tenor be raised by a Tax on the Inhabitants of this Town the same to be Applyed for Building of the Batterys and Fortifications in said Town and no other Use, And that the Assessors Set forthwith to make and Apportion the said Assessments upon the Inhabitants, And that the same be paid in to the Town Treasurer on or before the Tenth Day of August next, to be by him paid out to such Persons as the Selectmen shall Order. ——

Voted, That Messrs. John Goldthwait Daniel Pecker, Nathaniel Barber, Jeremiah Belknap, Sampson Salter, William Ireland, John Williams, John Tudor, Daniel Ballard Samuel Bass Jonathan Williams and Joseph Roby be and hereby are Appointed to Collect the aforesaid Sum of Ten Thousand Pounds and that they pay in the same to the Trown Treasurer on or before the said Tenth Day of August next accordingly. ——

Voted That the Selectmen in behalf of the Town Petition the Great and General Court or Assembly to be held at Boston on Wednesday next praying them to make a further Grant to the Town of such Sum as they shall think proper in Order to Enable them to Carry on the Building and Compleating the Batterys or Fortifications within the Town.

The Letters of Christopher Kilby & Eliakim Palmer Esq^rs. Dated at London the Eleventh & Eighteenth of February last mentioned at the Opening of the Meeting were Read and the Town Apprehending by Mr. Kilby's Letter that he is under some very great Mistakes relating to Several particular Matters by him mentioned in his Letter —— therefore

Voted That the Selectmen be desired to take the Several Matters in M^r. Kilby's Letter Complained of into Consideration & Report at the next General Town Meeting what they think may be proper for the Town to do thereon. ——

Then the Meeting was Dismiss'd.

[32.] At a Meeting of the Frecholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly Qualified and lawfully Warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Friday the Fourth Day of May. A.D. 1744.

Prayer was made by the Reverend Mr. William Welsteed

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The Precept and Warrant for Calling the Meeting —— Read.
Sundry Laws —— Read.

Jonas Clarke Esqr. One of the Selectmen in their Name proposed to the Inhabitants Assembled to proceed to the Choice of a Person or Persons to Serve for and Represent them in a Great and General Court or Assembly to be held at Boston upon Wednesday the Thirtieth of May instant, And in Order thereto to Consider and Ascertain the Number of Gentlemen to be Elected.

Accordingly, Voted to proceed to the Choice of Four Representatives, And it was declared that the Poll be closed at half an hour after Twelve o'Clock.

The Votes being Collected the Number of Voters were found to be Five Hundred & Thirty two, And upon Sorting the Votes it Appeared that the following Gentlemen were Chosen, Vizt.

	No. of Votes.
The Honble. Thomas Cushing Esqr.	500
Mr Timothy Prout	434
Thomas Hutchinson Esqr.	302
Andrew Oliver Esqr.	296

The Election of Representatives being Ended and the same being declared by the Selectmen ——

The Town proceeded to the Choice of a Moderator by a handy Vote, And the Honble. Thomas Cushing Esqr. being Nominated, The Question was put, Whether they would Choose the said Thomas Cushing Esqr. to be the Moderator of this Meeting — And it Unanimously passed in the Affirmative. ——

Voted That this Meeting be Adjourned to Three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Afternoon, The Town being met according to adjournment.

Sundry Petitions —— Read, Vizt.

of Ebenezer Berry that he may be Released from paying his Taxes for Three Years past.

[33.] of George Tilley for leave to take Gravel from Fox hill in the Common.

of Samuel Holyoke Writing School Master for an Addition to his Salary.

of Sundry Inhabitants to have the New Brick Church Bell rung at Eleven o'Clock.

of the Grave diggers that some place may be provided to bury Strangers in.

Several Reports —— Read, Vizt.

of the Committee appointed to Consider of Frauds in Cord Wood, and Firing of Chimneys. ——

of the Committee appointed to See what Sums are due to the Province Treasurer and Examine the Collectors Books. ——

of the Selectmen relating to Accepting a Peice of Land near Sudbury Street for a High Way. ——

of the Selectmen, on Mr. Kilby's Letter read at the last Meeting. ——

relating to the Selectmens applying to the General Court for a Law to Impower them to Execute the By-Laws of the Town.

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Sundry Motions —— made, Vizt.

Mr. Edward Bromfield, that the Merchants Watch upon the Dock may be put under the Care of the Selectmen.

Mr. Robert Rand praying he may Excused from paying his Fine for not Serving as a Clerk of the Market, to which Office he was Chosen in March last.

Mr. Middlecott Cooke, that the Writing School in the Common, whereof Mr. Abia Holbrook is Master may be Enlarged, the same not being Sufficient to Accommodate the Scholars that there Attend.

Andrew Oliver Esqr. that the Town would Grant a foot of Land or thereabouts to his Brother Peter Oliver to be Added to his Estate in Purchase Street out of the Passage Way leading before the same, and in Lieu thereof Accept of the same Quantity of his Land on the other Side said Street And that the Selectmen may be Impowered to lay out the same accordingly.

Samuel Adams Esqr. on behalf of himself and the other Persons that Petitioned for Purchase Street, praying the Town to Accept of said Street as now laid out.

Thomas Hutchinson Esqr. that the Moneys granted by the General Court and also the Moneys Voted by the Town the Sixteenth of April last to be raised by a Tax on the Inhabitants for Carrying on & Compleating the Fortifications may be paid into the hands of some particular Person as may be Chosen to receive the same, to be by him paid out unto the Committee (or their Order) appointed to Erect Fortifications.

[34.] The Assessors informed the Town that the Tax of Ten Thousand Pounds Old Tenor Voted the last Town Meeting for Fortifications was Apportioned praying the Direction of the Town as to their Delivering the Books to the Collectors. ——

The Town proceeded to take into Consideration the Motion made by Mr. Robert Rand praying he may be Excused from paying his Fine for not Serving as a Clerk of the Market, and upon hearing Mr. Rand & the reasons by him given. ——

Voted That Mr. Robert Rand be Excused from paying his Fine accordingly. ——

On a Motion made that the Foundation of the Grant of the Sum of Ten Thousand Pounds Old Tenor for Fortifying the Town passed at the General Town Meeting in April last, may be Reconsidered, after long Debates thereupon ——

The following Question was put, Whether the Matters inserted in the Warrant for calling the Town Meeting the Sixteenth of April last, was a Sufficient Foundation for the Inhabitants of the Town to Raise the Tax of Ten Thousand Pounds then Voted for carrying on the Fortifications in the Town. ——

Voted, in the Negative —— And then another Question was put, Whether there is a Sufficient Foundation in the Warrant for call-

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ing this present Meeting to proceed to Raise Moneys for Fortifying the Town, And it passed in the Negative.

The Report of the Selectmen to whom it was refer'd to Consider of a Motion for Applying to the General Court for granting further powers to the Town for the Executing the By-Laws, Read at the Opening of the Meeting, was now Read again —— And after a Considerable Debate thereon ——

It was Moved and Voted That the Consideration of this Report be refer'd to the next Town Meeting.

The Report of the Selectmen consisting of a Draft of a Letter by them made in Answer to a Letter of Christopher Kilby Esqr. of the Eleventh of February last Read at the Opening of the Meeting, was now Read again —— and after some Debate thereon the same was Amended, And then Voted that the Selectmen be & hereby are desired to Sign the said Letter in the Name of the Town & forward it to M^{r}. Kilby by the first Opportunity. ——

which Letter is in the Words following, Vizt.

[35.] Boston May. 4th. 1744.

Christopher Kilby Esqr.

Sir

Your Letter of the 11th. of February with the Two Annexed Copys of Your Letters to Mr. Palmer were duly received by the Selectmen & by them Communicated to the Inhabitants of the Town.

We Observe with great Concern that You have declined Engaging for the Town in their Cause with Francis & others and We cannot think You can be Justified in Your Severe Expressions & the Resentment You have shewn which have proceeded from Mistakes or Misinformations.

We cannot Answer for the Views or Prejudice of every Inhabitant but We are well Assured it was far from being the design of any Considerable Number much less of the Majority of the Town in joining M^{r}. Palmer to put any Slight upon You or shew the least Distrust of Your Capacity or Fidelity in Pursuing the Interest of the Town, but it was Used as an Argument with the Inhabitants that the Appointing M^{r}. Palmer and You by a joint Vote would have the Appearance of this being the beginning of the Town's inserting themselves in the Affair and so any Objection that might be made that they had already by You their Agent Acknowledged the Jurisdiction of the King in Council would be Removed, whatever Weight there might be in this Argument Yet it was the prevailing One.

We are Sorry for the unlucky Circumstance of the Papers being Sent You by M^{r}. Palmer under a Wrong Cover both the Original & Duplicates that went from the Selectmen were Superscribed by the Town Clerk & by him put in the Bag or delivered the Captains of the Ships they Went by, And M^{r}. Palmer Undoubtedly is Capable of Satisfying You of his Mistake.

You Mention a Letter being received by You Signed by Six only of the Selectmen, the Seventh was not then in Town, if he

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had been he would readily have Signed it & he joined with the rest in Voting the Letter to be Sent You.

As these Circumstances which were a great reason of Your refusal & in the light they Appeared to You must seem extraordinary are thus Explained & Cleared, We hope You will still engage in this Affair which We look upon to be of very great Importance to Us and in which We very much desire Your Assistance, And as there was no design the Three Hundred Pounds Sterling should fall into the hands of One Agent any more than the other, We expect & doubt not that it will be Applied for the Service of the joint Agency in proportion to the Charge either of You have been or may be at.

We are, in the Name & by Order of the Town.
Sir, Your very humble Servants.

[36.] Messrs. John Greenough Sworne, Samuel Holland Sworn, William Palfrey Sworn } Clerks of the Market.
were Chosen Clerks of the Market for the Year ensuing.

Voted, That all the Matters and Things now remaining Unfinished be refer'd over to the next Town Meeting, to be then Considered and Acted upon.

Then the Meeting was Dismissed.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly Qualified and lawfully Warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the Ninth Day of May A.D. 1744.

The Warrant for Calling the Meeting —— Read.

Voted That the Town proceed to the Choice of a Moderator by a Written Vote, the Votes being Collected it Appeared that the Honourable Thomas Cushing Esqr. was Unanimously Chosen.

Sundry Laws —— Read.

The Petition of Edward Gray & others relating to Purchase Street, was Read. ——

The Town proceeded to take into Consideration the Affair of further Fortifying the Town, and after a long Debate thereon,

It was Moved & Seconded that the following Question might be put, Whether the Town will now further enter into the Consideration of Finishing the North Battery and the same being put accordingly It was Voted in the Affirmative —— Then

Voted That the Sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred Pounds Bills of the Old Tenor be granted and raised by a Tax upon the Inhabitants of the Town for finishing the North Battery, and that the Assessors Set forthwith to Apportion the said Tax and when finished Commit the same to the Standing Collectors of Taxes & that they be Obliged to pay the same into the hands of the Town Treasurer on or before the Tenth Day of August next to be by him kept and paid out unto the Committee already appointed to Erect Fortifications or their Order.

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The Town Apprehending the Vote pass'd by them the Sixteenth [37.] of April last whereby they Accepted of the General Courts Grant of Six Hundred & Sixty Six Pounds Thirteen Shillings & four pence for Erecting another good and Sufficient Brest Work &c. to be Invalid and illegal, proceeded further to Consider of said Grant and after some Debate thereon ——

Voted That the Town will not Accept of the same on the Conditions therein mentioned, the said Vote of the Sixteenth of April Notwithstanding.

Then Voted That the Town will not at this time take any Steps further to Fortify the Town.

Voted, That the Selectmen be and they hereby are desired in the Name of the Town to put in a Petition to the Great & General Court or Assembly at their Sessions in May next praying them to Alter the aforesaid Grant of Six Hundred & Sixty Six Pounds Thirteen Shillings & four pence in such manner as that the same may be Applied towards Compleating the North Battery, Supplying it with Stores &c^{a} ——

Voted, That this Meeting be Adjourned to Three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Afternoon, The Town being met according to Adjournment.

The Petition of Sundry Inhabitants praying the Bell at the New Brick Church at the North End may be rung at Eleven o'Clock in the Forenoon and such Allowance be made to the Sexton therefor as shall be thought proper —— Voted, That the said Petition be refer'd to the Selectmen, they to Report thereon, as also on the Sextons Petition refer'd to them in March last, at the next Town Meeting.

The Report of the Selectmen made at the Meeting the fourth instant, on the Motion for Applying to the General Court for granting further powers to the Town for the Executing the By Laws was now Read again, and is as follows, Vizt.

To the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston in Town Meeting Assembled May. 4th. 1744.

The Selectmen to whom was refer'd to Consider of a Motion for Applying to the General Court for granting further powers to the Town for the Executing the By-Laws, make this report.

That they are of Opinion that Application be made to the General Court humbly praying, That as this Town is grown much more Populous [38.] Than under the Old Charter when they had power of making Laws with the Penalty of Twenty Shillings Annexed, their power may be now by an Act of the General Court increased, so as to make By Laws with the Consent of the Court of Sessions with a Penalty not exceeding Forty Shillings. ——

That the Selectmen for the time being or the Major part of them be Constituted a Court of Record & Vested with Powers Sufficient to try & Determine all Offences against the By Laws of the Town, their Courts to be held the last Monday of every Month under such Regulations as the General Court shall think proper, Provided an Appeal lyes from the Judgment of said Selectmen to the Court of

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General Sessions of the Peace for the County of Suffolk to be held next after said Judgment.

All which is humbly Submitted.

THO^S. HUTCHINSON
THOMAS HANCOCK
MIDDLECOTT COOKE } Selectmen.
JOHN STEEL
WILLIAM SALTER

And after a long Debate upon the said Report, The following Question was put, Whether the Town will Accept of said Report and Apply to the General Court for the purposes therein mentioned, And it pass'd in the Negative. ——

The Petition of John Swinnerton praying that he may keep a Free School for the learning of Children to Spell & Read refer'd over to this Meeting now came under Consideration And after some Debate thereon ——

Voted, That the same be Dismissed. ——

Voted That the Overseers of the Poor be & hereby are desired in the most prudent & frugal manner to take Care that the Poor Children within their respective Wards be put to such Schools as are proper for teaching them to Read & that the Town be at the Expence of the same. ——

M^r. Treasurer Wadsworth presented an Estimate of what may be proper for the Town to Raise for defraying the Charges of the Current Year.

Voted, That the Several Petitions of Samuel Holyoke, Abia [39.] Holbrook & John Procter Junr. Schoolmasters in the Town praying for an Addition to be made to their Salarys, be refer'd over to the General Town Meeting in March next for Consideration. ——

Voted a Grant of Fifteen Thousand Bills of the Old Tenor to to be raised by a Tax upon Polls & Estates within the Town of Boston for Relief of the Poor and defraying other Necessary Charges arising within and for the said Town the Year ensuing. ——

Voted, That the Sum of Seventy five Pounds Bills of the Old Tenor be Allowed & paid out of the Town Treasury unto M^r. John Staniford being for his Salary as Clerk of Faneuill Hall Market the Year past ending in March last.

The Petition of Ebenezer Berry refer'd to this time, praying for an Abatement of his Taxes for Three Years past for reasons mentioned in said Petition, now came under Consideration, And after some Debate, Voted That the said Petition be Dismissed.

The Hon. Edward Hutchinson Esqr. from the Committee appointed to Examine the Accounts of M^r. Treasurer Wadsworth, to Audit the Accounts of the Overseers of the Poor respecting the Almshouse, and also to Audit their Accounts relating to the Workhouse, presented their Several Reports thereon which were Read and are as on file ——

Voted That the said Reports be Accepted. ——

Voted, That this Meeting be Adjourned to Tomorrow, at Three o'Clock in the Afternoon. ——

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Thursday May 10th. — The Town being met according to Adjournment.

The Motion made by Mr. Edward Bromfield at the last Town Meeting that the Merchants Watch upon the Town Dock may be put under the Care of the Select men —— was now Considered, and

Voted That the Selectmen be desired to take the whole Care of said Watch, that the same be kept up and Maintained at the Expence of the Town, until the Town shall Order otherwise.

The Motion made by Mr. Middlecott Cooke the last Town Meeting that the Writing School in the Common whereof Mr. Abia Holbrook is Master may be Enlarged the same not being Sufficient to Accommodate the Scholars that there Attend, was taken into Consideration, & thereupon

[40.] Voted That the Selectmen be & hereby are desired to Enlarge the said School in such manner as they shall think Needful for the Convenience & Accommodation of the Scholars.

The Motion made by Andrew Oliver Esqr. the last Town Meeting, that the Town will grant a foot of Land or thereabouts to his Brother Peter Oliver to be Added to his Estate in Purchase Street, out of the Passage Way leading before the same & in Lieu thereof Accept of the same Quantity of his Land on the other Side said Passage Way —— now came under Consideration

And thereupon ——— Voted That the same be refer'd to the Selectmen, who are desired to Act & do therein as they shall think proper.

The Memorial of Edward Gray & John Hill in behalf of themselves & others Proprietors & Abutters of Land on Purchase Street so Called laid out through Bartons Rope Walk Read at the Opening of the Meeting & now Read again Setting forth, That the Town at their Meeting in May. 1741. on the Report of the Selectmen then made upon the Petition of the Memorialist's relating to said High Way Voted That their Report be Accepted & that upon the Petitioners Compleating the Street from Summer Street to Sconce Street of Twenty One feet in Length & levelling a part of the hill to the Eastward of said Street to the Approbation of the Selectmen & Convey over said Land to the Town for a Common High Way free from any Demand of the Proprietors, that then the Town Allow to the Memorialists One Hundred & Fifty Pounds & Accept of it as a High Way.

That the Memorialists pursuant to said Vote have Compleated the whole of said Street Saving a Small part thereof towards the Sconce belonging to the Honble. Colo. Wendell & which the Memorialists. were in hopes they should prevail with Colo. Wendell to Release but as yet have not been able to do, That the Memorialists have Levelled the Hill to the Eastward of said Street to the Approbation of the Selectmen & done every thing they can to Comply with said Vote & are ready by a good Deed to Convey said Land to the Town. And as they had been put to Considerable more Cost Expence & Trouble than they at first Apprehended They prayed the Town would be pleased to Accept of said [41.] High Way as it now is, altho' they cannot yet Obtain from

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Col°. Wendell his Land which would Enable them fully to Comply with the Towns Vote & thereupon Order the said Sum of One Hundred & Fifty Pounds to be paid them out of the Town Treasury.

And after some Debate thereon ——

Voted That the Prayer of the Petition be granted, & that upon the Petitioners & their Associates giving a good and Lawful Deed of the said Street to the Town as it now is, the Town Accept of the same as a High Way and that the Sum of One Hundred & Fifty Pounds Old Tenor be paid them out of the Town Treasury accordingly.

The Motion made by Capt. Nathaniel Cunningham at the Meeting in That a Plan be taken of all the Lands & Rights belonging to the Town and hung up in Faneuil Hall, & that a particular Entry of all said Lands & Rights may be made in the Towns Books for the better Information of the Inhabitants —— now came under Consideration, & thereupon ——

Voted That the Selectmen be and hereby are desired in the most frugal manner they can to take or cause to be taken a Plan of all such Rights as do in any manner belong unto the Town, and Report their Doings hereon at the next General Town Meeting.

Voted That the Sum of Two Hundred & Fifty Pounds Bills of the Old Tenor be Allowed and Paid out of the Town Treasury unto the Honourable Joseph Wadsworth Esqr. for his good Services as Town Treasurer for the Year past.

The Report of the Selectmen relating to a Peice of Land, Petitioned for by a Number of Inhabitants to be laid out for a High Way leading from Sudbury Street to Hawkins Street —— was Read & is as follows, Vizt.

To the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of Boston in Town Meeting Assembled May the 4th. 1744.

Pursuant to a Vote of the Town the 14th. of March last desiring the Selectmen to View a Peice of Land leading from Sudbury Street to Hawkins's Street Petitioned for by a Number of Proprietors & Abutters to be Accepted by the Town for a High Way.

We the Subscribers accordingly Attended that Service & are of Opinion that the said Peice of Land be Accepted of by the Town [42.] For a Publick High Way provided the Abutters & Proprietors thereon Level the said Land to the Satisfaction of the Selectmen.

All which is humbly Submitted, by

SAMUEL ADAMS
JONAS CLARKE
THOMAS HANCOCK
MIDDLECOTT COOKE
JOHN STEEL
WILLIAM SALTER
} Selectmen

And thereupon —— Voted That the said Report be Accepted provided the s^d. Proprietors & Abutters will Pave the said Street at their own Expence & Charge the same to be under the Direction of the Selectmen, and that the same be called and known by the Name of Still house Square.

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The Petition of George Tilley refer'd over from the last Meeting unto this time, praying the Town would give him Liberty to take a few Load of Gravel from Fox hill or Beach Stuff, from of the great Beach at the Bottom of the Common to Cover a hollow place in a High Way by him fenced in Order to lay out for the Service of the Town, near the bottom of the Common —— was now Read & after some Debate thereon

Voted That this Petition be & hereby is refer'd unto the Selectmen who are desired to Act & do therein what they Apprehend will be most for the Advantage of the Town.

The Petition of Thomas Moulin & others Grave Diggers Setting forth that the South Burying place is so full that they cannot Bury the Dead without Disturbing them, praying the Town to take it into Consideration & that they will provide some place to Bury Strangers & Negroes —— was now Read & thereupon

Voted That the same be refer'd to the Selectmen, they to Consider of the said Petition & Report at the next Town Meeting what they Apprehend may be proper to do thereon.

The Committee appointed in March last to Consider of some Effectual means to prevent Frauds in the measure of Cord Wood presented their Report which was Read & is as follows, Vizt.

Boston May. 3d. 1744.

We the Subscribers being appointed a Committee to Consider of some Effectual Method to prevent Fraud in the Measure of [43.] Cord Wood. accordingly have Convers'd with divers People relating to this Affair and do find that in times past some Wharfs have been Omitted as to the having a Sealer which has been a discouragement to those that have been Sealers, & and many Coasters have gone from those Wharfs where there have been faithful Sealers to those where there has been none, Upon all which We are of Opinion That no Wharf where any Wood is Landed for Sale should be Destitute of a faithful Sealer, and that for his Encouragement he should be Allowed Four pence Old Tenor for every Cord of Wood he Seals & that no Wood shall be Carried of from any Wharf without it be Sealed by One of the Persons so Chosen & Sworn, & that no One Sealer shall have the Charge of more than Two or Three Wharfs at the most —— All of which is Submitted ——

JOHN DARRELL
ROBERT RAND
JOSEPH BRADFORD
JACOB PARKER

Voted That this Report be Accepted & that the Selectmen be desired to Act in Conformity to said Report.

The Committee appointed in March last to Consider of some Effectual means to prevent the frequent Firing of Chimneys, presented their Report which was Read, & is as follows, Vizt.

Boston May. 3d. 1744.

We the Subscribers being appointed a Committee to Consider of some proper Method to prevent the Firing of Chimneys, have Con-

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sidered of that Affair & and do find that many fires has been Occasioned by the Neglect of Sweeping of Chimneys, Therefore are of Opinion that if the Town could find two Suitable Persons that would Undertake to Effect the Sweeping of all the Chimneys in the Town of Boston they having a proper Encouragement for so doing, in such Case if the said Undertakers shall be duly Notified to Sweep any Chimney & shall not Attend his or their Duty within Forty Eight hours shall pay a fine of Ten Shillings for every such Neglect, And if any Inhabitant shall Neglect to Notify One of the Undertakers, & by such Neglect his Chimney shall take Fire so as to Blaze out at the Top, shall for every such Neglect pay the aforsaid Fine, And for the Encouragement of the Undertakers no Person shall Employ any other Person to [44.] Sweep their Chimney or Chimneys without paying the aforsaid Fine —— All which is Submitted by Your humble Servants.

JOHN DARRELL
ROBERT RAND
JOSEPH BRADFORD
JACOB PARKER

Voted, That the said Report be refer'd to the Selectmen they to Consider thereof & Act therein as shall be most for the Security and Advantage of the Town ——

Voted That Mr. John Wheelwright
Mr. Jeremiah Allen
Mr. Thomas Greene
Mr. Harrison Gray &
Nathaniel Balston Esqr.

be a Committee to Audit the Town Treasurers Accounts for the Year ensuing and make Report as Usual, and that they also Audit the Accounts of the Overseers of the Poor respecting the Almshouse, and also the Workhouse, and to Attend doing the same at the Usual place of said Overseers Meeting, & said Accounts being Audited the said Committee are desired to make Report hereon at the next General Town Meeting.

Messrs. Benjamin Ballard, Joseph Ballard, Benjamin Sault } Cullers of Staves & Hoops.

were Chosen Cullers of Staves & Hoops for the Year ensuing.

Mr. Thomas Hayes was Chosen a Sealer of Leather for the Year ensuing. —— Sworn.

Voted That the Thanks of the Town be given to the Honble. Thomas Cushing Esqr. the Moderator for his great Pains in regulating & giving Dispatch to the Business of this Meeting.

Voted, That all the Matters & Things remaining Unfinished be refer'd over to the next Town Meeting for Consideration.

Then the Meeting was Dismissed.

[45.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly Qualified and Lawfully Warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the Twenty Fourth Day of May, Anno Domini, 1744.

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The Warrant for calling the Meeting —— Read.

The Town proceeded to Choose a Moderator by a handy Vote, And the Honourable Edward Hutchinson Esqr. being Nominated, was accordingly Chosen Moderator of this Meeting.

Samuel Adams Esqr. One of the Selectmen, Informed the Town that M^{r}. Francis Willoughby keeper of the Granary the last Week broke his Leg, whereby he is rendered Unable to Attend that Business, and the Granary has not been since Opened, He therefore desired the Town would give Directions to the Selectmen how they should Act in this matter.

The Town proceeded to take into Consideration the Business of this Meeting, which is to Determine Whether it will be proper to give any Instructions to their Agents relating to the Controversy between them and Abraham Francis and others differing from what has already been Determined by the Town, And after very long Debates thereupon —— It was Moved and Seconded that the following Question might be put, Whether the Town will now come to a Determination of this Affair, And it being accordingly put ——

It was Voted in the Negative.

Voted, That there be Adjournment of this Meeting further to Consider & Determine upon the Business thereof, and that when the same is Adjourned it be to Thursday the Fourteenth Day of June next.

Voted, That this Meeting be Adjourned to Thursday the Fourteenth Day of June next at Three o'Clock in the Afternoon, And that the Selectmen give Directions to the Constables that the Inhabitants of the Town be Specially Notified of this Adjournment and the Business that is to be then Acted upon.

Thursday, June. 14. 1744. Three o'Clock in the Afternoon —— The Town met according to Adjournment.

And it Appearing that the Constables had not Warned the [46.] Inhabitants as they were directed, and few of the Inhabitants being present, it was Moved that the Meeting should be Adjourned to some further Day and that the Selectmen be desired to give Orders in Writing to the Several Constables of the Town that they Notify the Inhabitants to meet at said Adjournment, and that Printed Tickets expressing the Business of the Meeting be left at the Houses of the Several Inhabitants at some Seasonable time before the said Adjournment, which Motion being Seconded by Several, it was accordingly put, and Voted in the Affirmative —— Then

Voted, That this Meeting be Adjourned to Tuesday the Twenty Sixth Day of June instant, at Three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Tuesday June. 26th. 1744. Three o'Clock in the Afternoon. The Town met according to Adjournment.

The Honble. Edward Hutchinson Esqr. the Moderator of this Meeting being out of Town upon his private Affairs, It was proposed that some other Person be Chosen in his room, And James Allen Esqr. being Nominated, he was accordingly Chosen.

The Town proceeded to take into Consideration the Business of the Meeting which is to Determine Whether it will be proper for

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the Town to give any Instructions to their Agents relating to the Controversy between them and Abraham Francis and others differing from what has already been Determined by the Town —— And after some Debate thereon, A Question was put, And it was accordingly, Voted, Nemine Contradicente that the Town will not give any Instructions to their Agents relating to the Controversy aforesaid differing from those already given them.

Voted, That Samuel Welles, Edward Hutchinson, James Allen, Thomas Cushing & John Read, Esq^rs.; Capt. Nathaniel Cunningham & M^r. Charles Apthorp be a Committee to draw up a Letter proper to be Sent to the Agents to Inform them what the Town have now done relating to this matter, and Report thereon at the next Meeting.

Upon a Motion made by M^r. Middlecott Cooke ——

[47.] It was Unanimously Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be given to Capt. Edward Tyng Commander of the Province Snow for the great Service he has done in taking and bringing in to this Harbour a French Privateer Sloop belonging to Cape Briton Mounting Sixteen Guns and Mann'd with Ninety four Men Commanded by Capt. Delabroitz, which has been Cruising in Our Bay for several days past; and that the Selectmen desired to present the same to him accordingly.

Then the Meeting was Dismist.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly Qualified & lawfully Warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Tuesday the Fourteenth Day of August, Anno Domini, 1744. ——

The Warrant for Calling the Meeting —— Read.

The Inhabitants proceeded to the Choice of a Moderator by a written Vote, and the Votes being collected it Appeared that James Allen Esqr. was Chosen.

The Committee appointed the Twenty Sixth of June last, to prepare the Draft of a Letter proper to be Sent to the Agents to Inform them what the Town have further done relating to their Controversy with Abraham Francis and others, Reported that, they had accordingly prepared the same which was Read & is to Stand in the Words following —— Vizt.

Boston August. 1744.

Gentlemen,

Upon Receipt of M^r. Palmer's Letters of the 18th. of February & 9th. of March last, the Selectmen Warned the Town to meet, specially to Consider of the Affair of M^r. Francis and others, their Controversy with the Town, in its present Situation and Circumstances, and according the Town met, as You See (by the Votes now Sent) Once and again, and after large Debates

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& long Deliberation, they came to the Resolution of Adhering to their former Instructions, without so much as One Vote to the Contrary, when the Negative was put, which You See is particularly exprest in the Record of the Vote. ——

We Observe what Mr. Palmer Says, that the Lords of Council [48.] Refused to hear any pleading upon the Petition of the Council & Assembly of the Province, It is possible it might be tho't Needless or improper to Argue a point that a particular Cause then depending, wou'd be much Affected by, before that cause came on, but however that may have been, We must press You, that in a decent humble manner, You insist on Our being heard on Our pleas in Bar, because, if We are refused, there are Several pleas beside those from the Charter, which respect the false representations & Abuses put upon the Town, in the Petition, that bro't on the Order for an Appeal, which will escape being heard also, and which, if they are heard, will, We doubt not, prove very clearly, that there is Nothing in the last Petition, that was Accepted different from the former, that was rejected, but Falsehoods.

We hope the light, in which We Set the Affair of Chusing You Agents for the Town, jointly & Severally & their other proceedings, has Satisfied Mr. Kilby, that he had not Occasion given him by the Town, for so much Resentment and such harsh Expressions in his Letter of the Eleventh of March last, or to refuse the Agency, and therefore that he will readily do all in his power, to Serve Us in this important Affair. ——

And after a Short Debate thereon ——

Voted, That the same be Accepted & that the Selectmen be and hereby are directed to Sign the same in behalf of the Town & forward it to the Agents by the first Opportunity.

The Town proceeded to take into Consideration the Petition of a Number of the Inhabitants of the Town to the Selectmen Setting forth, That the Taxes Assessed upon the Town are so very Burthensome, that many, even of the Richest of the Inhabitants are groaning under the Weight of them & they Apprehended with great reason —— That the Middling Sort of People are daily decreasing many of them Sinking into extream Poverty —— That not only the Trade is visibly decreasing, but many honest Tradesmen are without Employ, the Trade of Building Houses being in a manner Stagnated, as well as that of Building Ships —— That in the last Supply Bill made by the General Assembly, the Funds are laid within the Year. 1746, and the Taxes made for the same, whereby they Apprehend the [49.] Succeeding Assemblys are foreclosed granting the People any Relief, as in the Year. 1741. when the Burthen was so great (Occasioned by the Expedition to the Spanish West Indies) as that the General Court looked on themselves bound in Compassion to their People, to Postpone the Funds to some further time, which, had the Taxes been made as now, could not have been done —— Wherefore this being a Matter of the greatest Consequence to the Province in general. & the Town of Boston in particular, the Petitioners prayed the Selectmen would grant a Warrant to Convene the Town to give

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Instructions to their Representatives relating to the next Supply Bill, or any other Articles of Importance, if the Town See cause.

And After a Considerable Debate, thereon, It was

Voted, That a Committee be Chosen to Draw up Instructions for the Representatives of the Town relating to the Several Matters mentioned in said Petition, and that said Committee be directed therein Strongly to Urge that the Representatives Use their best Endeavours to have the Funds put beyond the Year. 1746. Also that the Taxes be not laid at the same time the Treasury is Supplyed, but that it be left to Succeeding Assemblys to do the same, and that it be an Article in said Instructions that the Representatives also Endeavour that We have some Relief as to Our proportion of the Publick Taxes —— and then

Voted, That the said Committee Consist of Five Persons, And accordingly,

Ezekiel Lewis
Samuel Welles
James Allen } Esq^{rs}.
Samuel Adams &
Abiel Walley

were Chosen to be the said Committee for the purposes aforesaid, and they are desired to make Report of their doings herein at the next Meeting.

Then the Meeting was Dismissed.

[**50.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly Qualified and lawfully Warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Tuesday the Twenty fifth Day of September, Anno Domini, 1744.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting —— Read.

James Allen Esqr. was Chosen Moderator (by a written Vote)

A Petition of Sundry Inhabitants praying That Faneuil Hall Market may be Opened on Saturdays in the Afternoon & on the whole of those Days preceeding Thanksgiving and Fast Days —— Read.

A Motion made by M^{r}. Jeremiah Allen that a Committee may be now Chosen by the Town to Audit the Accompts of the Committee that were Appointed for Building the Batterys.

The Committee appointed the fourteenth of August last to draw up Instructions to be given to the Representatives of the Town of Boston, having Attended that Service, now made Report of a Draft they had prepared, in the following Words, Vizt.

To Thomas Cushing Esqr. M^{r}. Timothy Prout
Thomas Hutchinson & Andrew Oliver Esq^{rs}.

Gentlemen,

We have in Confidence of your firm Attachment to the Interest of the Province in general & of this Town in particular, Chosen You to Represent & Act for Us, this Critical Year in the Great & General Court, and as We hereby put Our Lives & Estates into your hands and do You the highest Honour in Our power, by placing in You the highest Trust, We Apprehend it Our Duty,

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according to the Example of Our Mother Countrey & frequent Practice of this, to Let You know Our Sentiments and Inclinations in some Affairs of great Importance to the Province, but particularly to this Town.

[1.] We would especially Recommend to Your Care, the manner of Supplying the Treasury, We need not Observe how much the two Succeeding Years are loaded with Taxes, already laid, & therefore how Oppressive it will be to increase the Burthen, already almost insupportable by laying any of the extraordinary Charges of the War on those Two Years, for either it must be Concluded, when You make the Promise, to Neglect and break it, or to ruin the [**51.**] Province, both which, We trust you would be far from, & therefore We direct & Urge that you would take the third and only practical Method of laying the Funds, on some future Unincumbred Years; and this is Agreeable to the Usage of all Wise States, so to Order their Affairs, that the great & Excessive Charge of War, may be defrayed and paid in the Days of Peace, when the People are at Leisure to Till the Ground, and may with Safety, Suck of the Abundance of the Seas: and not make Grim and Savage War, look yet more terrible, by Voluntarily & Wantonly Adding the Ghastly Visage of Hunger & Nakedness.

2. We would further press You to Use your best Endeavours, that the Taxes be not laid when the Supply of the Treasury is made, but that future Assemblys (who will best know the Circumstances and Ability of the Province) may have the Opportunity of Consulting the Safety and Weal of the Publick, of which right, they ought by no means to be debarred, We are Sensible that in times past, there have been some Mistakes made, from which Inconveniences have arisen, which might have been prevented, had the Taxes been laid irrevocably when the Funds were Agreed on; but We had not then the Experience We now have, of the Nature and operation of Bills of Credit; Nevertheless howsoever that might have been, We cannot Suppose, because in some extraordinary times, when a Party Spirit has run high, there have been some Abuses of Our Liberties and Priviledges that therefore We should in a Servile manner give them all up. And have Our Bread & Water measured out to Us by those Who Riot in Luxury & Wantonness on Our Sweat & Toil and be told perhaps by them, that We are too happy, because We are not reduced to Eat Grass with the Cattle.

3. We must further direct You, to Use your Interest, that this Town be Abated in their proportion of the Publick Taxes as now Assessed; As Trade and Navigation abroad & Ship building ashore are the business of the Town and means to enable them to pay, when these fail, as it is visible they all do, since the French War: especially Building of Ships which is almost wholly Ceased, Our Proportion of the Taxes must Abate & Cease accordingly, or we must make Brick without Straw.

4. We further expect, as You regard the good of Town or Country, that you will be very watchful, and do all in your power, that none [**52.**] Who have a Visible Temptation to Prostitute

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the Publick Interest and Treasure, to Serve their own, may be improved or have Opportunity given them for it; We also desire You carefully to Avoid men, Who from a Mean & Servile Complaisance to those in power, would Complement away Our Estates & Liberties nor let these despicable Tools, from the Supple & Contemptible figure they make, be tho't below your Care or Notice, Remember that great Mischief may arise, from the deceitful Cringing & fawning of the Spaniel, as well as from the Polluted and Rapacious Jaws of the Mastiff.

The aforewritten Draught, is what We Apprehend the Town inclines, should be given the Representatives as their Instructions; —— All which is humbly Submitted,

by EZE: LEWIS
SAMUEL WELLES
JA^s. ALLEN
SAMUEL ADAMS
ABIEL WALLEY.

The said Report having been Read Several times.

After some Debate thereon, Voted That the same be Considered of Paragraph by Paragraph, And thereupon the First Paragraph was Read & Voted that the same be Accepted;

Then the Second Paragraph being Read ——

Voted, That the same be Amended by having the Words at the Close thereof Vizt. "And have Our Bread & Water measured out to Us by those who Riot in Luxury & Wantonness on Our Sweat & Toil and be told perhaps by them that We are too happy, because We are not reduced to Eat Grass, with the Cattle." entirely Obliterated.

And then the Third Paragraph was Read.

Voted, That the same be Accepted.

And then the Fourth Paragraph was Read —— and Voted, That the whole thereof be Obliterated

And then the said Draft (as Amended) was Read & thereupon,

Voted, That the Town Clerk be and hereby is directed and Ordered to Deliver an Attested Copy thereof to each of the Gentlemen the Representatives of the Town of Boston as the Instructions of the said Town.

[**53.**] The Petition of Sundry Inhabitants praying that Faneuil Hall Market may be Opened on Saturdays in the Afterternoon & on the whole Day before the Thanksgiving & Fast Days, was Read again, And after some Debate,

Voted, That the said Petition be Dismissed.

Mr. Jeremiah Allen desired to withdraw the Motion he made at the Opening of this Meeting, for having a Committee Chosen to Audit the Accompts of the Committee appointed to Build the Batterys, being Informed that the said Committee had not as yet received in all the Acco^ts. for Building the same.

The Meeting was Dismissed.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants, of the Town of Boston duly Qualified & lawfully Warned in Publick Town

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Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Thursday the Thirty first Day of January, A.D. 1744.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting. Read.

James Allen Esqr. was Chosen Moderator (by a handy Vote.)

The Town proceeded to take into Consideration the Petition of a Number of the Inhabitants to the Selectmen for Calling this Meeting, Setting forth that the Inhabitants labour under a great Load of Taxes which on the Acco^t. of the War is like to be Encreased, that the Collectors are greatly in Arrear with the Province Treasurer, & are Solliciting that the Tax Books for the Year. 1744. may be put into their hands, praying the Selectmen would not deliver 'em said Tax Books until the Town should Advise thereon, And after some Debate thereon, the Treasurer inform'd the Town that he Apprehended the Several Collectors had paid off (including their own Fees) the whole they were Indebted to the Town, that he now had Draughts made upon him by the Selectmen and Overseers of the Town for Several Thousand Pounds Old Tenor, & that there is no Money in the Treasury to Discharge them, And if the Town would not deliver to the Collectors Elect, the said Tax Books for the Year. 1744. they would take some other Method to have the Treasury Supplyed in Order to pay off said Draughts.

Whereupon it was Moved and accordingly —— Voted That the Assessors Deliver the Tax Books to the Town Treasurer, & that such of [54.] The Inhabitants as shall pay to said Treasurer their Tax for the Year. 1744. at any time before March Meeting shall be Allowed at the time of Payment Five Pounds on the Hundred & so in proportion for any greater or less Sum he shall pay in and that the Treasurers Receipt for said Tax shall Sufficiently Discharge the Person paying the same.

Afterwards Several of the Inhabitants (Apprehending great Inconveniences may Arise by this Method) Moved That the said Vote may be Reconsidered, which was Voted accordingly —— And that this Meeting be Adjourned for a few Days & that the Town then take into Consideration the said Motion, & Act thereon as they think proper ——

Also Voted That the Several Collectors bring in at the said Adjournment a List of the Names of all such Persons as have not paid in their Taxes for the Year. 1743.

Voted That this Meeting be Adjourned to Thursday the Fourteenth of February next at Three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

February 14th. 1744. Thursday Afternoon at Three o'Clock. The Town met according to Adjournment.

And immediately proceeded to take into Consideration the Motion made at the beginning of this Meeting & refer'd over to this time to be Acted upon, Vizt. That such of the Inhabitants as shall pay to the Town Treasurer their Tax for the Year. 1744. at any time before March Meeting shall be Allowed at the time of Payment Five Pounds on the Hundred & so in proportion for any greater or less Sum that shall be paid in &c. And after a long Debate thereon ——

The Town Apprehending That Difficulties would Attend Com-

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mitting at this time the Tax Books to the Collectors for the present Year but yet that it is of Necessity a Considerable Sum of Money Sho'd be immediately raised for defraying the Expences of the Town.

It was Moved & accordingly Voted That any Person or Persons Taxed the present Year who will Lend the Town Treasurer at any time before the Twentieth of March next any Sum or Sums of Money to Answer the present Exigencies shall be Allowed Five p Cent on the Sum so Lent, The Principal & Premium to be Discounted by the Collectors out of their said Tax when Committed to them. ——

Then the Meeting was Dismiss'd.

[55.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly Qualifyed and lawfully Warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the twenty fifth day of March Anno Domini 1745.

Prayer being made by the Rev^{d}. M^{r}. John Webb.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting —— Read.

The Inhabitants proceeded to the Choice of a Moderator (by a written Vote) and upon Collecting the Votes it appeared that The Honble. Thomas Cushing Esqr. was unanimously chosen. then

Ezekiel Goldthwait (by a written Vote) was unanimously chose Town Clerk for the year ensuing, and sworne to the faithful discharge of his Duty in that Office by Daniel Henchman Esqr.

Sundry Laws. —— Read.

Sundry Petitions. —— Read. . . . . Viz^{t}.

Of Isaac Peirce, for an additional allowance for ringing the Old North Bell. ——

Of Benjamin Church's, praying Wheelers Pond may be reconvey'd to him. ——

Of John Fenno, that he may be appointed Master of the Granary. ——

Of John Roulston, praying he may have the priviledge of diging Graves with other Sextons.

Of M^{r}. Abia Holbrook, Master of the South Writing School, praying his former petition for an Addition to his Salary may be now Considered, and Acted upon ——

Of M^{r}. Samuel White, Usher of the North Grammar School, praying for an Addition to his Salary. ——

[56.] Thomas Hubbard Esqr. a Motion made by him that some Method may be taken to prevent Negroes keeping Hogs.

A Motion made by M^{r}. Joseph Marion, that as the Old Brick Church Bell which for many years past has been rung at five and eleven a Clock in the forenoon, and nine in the Evening is now broke, the Town would now direct that the old South Church Bell shall be rung at those hours.

A Motion made by M^{r}. Hopestill Foster, that another place for the Burial of the Dead may be provided at the South part of the Town.

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A Motion made by Mr. Jonathan Willis, that some Method may be taken to prevent the firing of Chimneys.

A Motion made by Mr. Robert Rand; That the Town would determine whether the Fines arising on any persons refusing to Serve in the Office to which he is chosen, shall be paid in bills of the old tenor, or the same sum in lawful money.

A Motion made by the Selectmen, that the Town would Consider of some Method to Improve the Marsh at the bottom of the Common in such manner as will be most for the Advantage of the Town.

The Selectmen Informed the Town that the Lease made to Stephen Minot Esqr. of certain Lands on the Neck is now Expired and as the Selectmen cannot (by a Vote of the Town) Lease out any Lands for any longer space than Seven years, they apprehend it will be a great disadvantage to the Town if they are Confin'd to Lease out these Lands for no longer term praying the Towns Consideration thereof.

Thomas Hutchinson Esqr. one of the Selectmen Inform'd the Town that he was much Obliged to them for the Honour [57.] Done him in choosing him a Selectman for several years past, that he found his own private affairs would not permit him to Serve the Town in that Office any longer, and therefore desired that when the Town proceeded to the Choice of Selectmen for the ensuing year, his name may not be put into the List. —— then

Voted to proceed to the Choice of Seven Selectmen The Votes being accordingly brought in and sorted, it appeared that Six Selectmen only were chose. Vizt.

Samuel Adams Esqr.	Selectmen.
Jonas Clarke Esqr.	
Mr. Thomas Hancock	
Mr. Middlecott Cooke	
Capt. John Steel	
Mr. William Salter	

Whereupon the Inhabitants were directed to bring in their Votes for another Selectman, and they being accordingly brought in, & Sorted it appeared that.

Capt. Henry Atkins. was chose.

The Motion made by Mr. Robert Rand relating to the Fines to be paid by those persons who refuse to Serve in the respective Offices, to which they are chosen, now came under Consideration, and after some debate, Voted, that any person or persons chosen to any office in the Town for the year ensuing, who in case of refusal is obliged to pay any Fine or penalty; be Excused from Serving in such Office, provided he or they pay their respective fines in bills of the old tenor, as the several persons did, who were the last year chose, and refused to Serve

Voted, that a number of persons be chose specially to Collect the Taxes, separate from the Constables.

Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourn'd to three a Clock in the Afternoon.

[58.] The Town being mett according to Adjournment.

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Voted, to choose twelve Constables distinct from Collectors of Taxes, accordingly.

Messrs. James Perkins	paid last year.	Constables.
William Molineaux	paid in 1741.	
Daniel Willard	Pay.	
William Bowen	Sworne.	
Thomas Flucker	Pay.	
Moses Deshon	Sworne.	
Simeon Skilling	Sworne.	
Gamaliel Wallis	paid in 1736.	
William Wait Wallis	Excus'd.	
Dean Osgood	Pay.	
Tuttle Hubbard	Pay.	
Benjamin Bagnal jun^{r}	Pay.	

were Chosen Constables.

Voted, that the Town proceed to the Choice of County Treasurer, — and Collectors of Taxes to morrow at Eleven a clock.

The following Gentlemen were chose Overseers of the Poor for the year ensuing — Viz^{t}.

The Honble. Jacob Wendell Esqr.	Twelve Overseers of the Poor.
William Tyler Esqr.	
Col^{o}. John Hill	
Thomas Hubbard Esqr.	
Daniel Henchman Esqr.	
M^{r}. Edward Bromfield	
Col^{o}. William Downe	
Andrew Oliver Esqr.	
Capt. John Phillips	
M^{r}. Isaac Walker	
George Rogers Esqr.	
M^{r}. Ebenezer Storer	

were chosen Overseers of the poor. &c.

[59.] Messrs. Andrew Hall Junr.	Excus'd.	Constables.
Farr Tolman.	Pay.	
James Gough.	Pay.	
Thomas Kimball.	Sworne.	
Prince Sturgis.	Pay	
William Vintenon.	Sworne.	

were chose Constables for the year ensuing. ——

Messrs. Richard Buckley	Assessors.
Joshua Blanchard	
Jacob Parker	
Daniel Pecker	
William Fairfield	
Nathaniel Barber	
Joseph Fitch	

were chose Assessors for the year ensuing. ——

The Petition of John Roulstone Sexton of the old South Church praying that he may have the Right & Priviledge granted him of diging Graves in the South Burying places as Messrs. Moulin Band & Williston Sextons of the other Churches have; now came

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under Consideration and after some debate thereon, Voted That Liberty be & hereby is granted unto the said John Roulston to dig Graves in said Burying Places accordingly.

The Petition of Benjamin Church praying that the Pond comonly called Wheelers Pond at the South End may be Conveyed to him by the Town, was read, and thereupon Voted That the Selectmen be & hereby are desired to take the Subject matter of said Petition & the Circumstances of the same into Consideration, and report what they think proper for the Town to do thereon, at the next General Town Meeting.

The Petition of Isaac Peirce Sexton of the old north Church praying an Additional Allowance may be made him for ringing [60.] The Bell there, was read, and thereupon Voted that the prayer of the said Petition be refer'd to the Selectmen, they to Act thereupon as they shall think proper. ——

The Motion of Mr. Joseph Marion made at the Opening of the Meeting, that the Old South Church Bell may be rung at the hours of 5. 11 & 9 a Clock instead of the old Church bell which is now broke, came under Consideration, and after some debate thereon Voted that the said Bell be accordingly rung at those hours until the Bell of the old Church be mended and that the Selectmen give directions accordingly.

The Petition of Mr. Abia Holbrook Master of the South Writing School (referr'd over to this time) Setting forth that his Salary which is now but Two hundred pounds a year old tenor, is not sufficient for his Support and maintenance, and as it is his main dependence he prays the Town would Consider the same and grant him such a Competency for his Subsistence as may Encourage him further to Serve the Town in the Station he now Sustains; was now Read and after a short debate thereon Voted that the Sum of One Hundred Pounds old Tenor bills p Annum be added to Mr. Holbrooks Salary, the same to Commence on the Twenty second instant, and that the Selectmen be desired to give drafts on the Treasury for the same from time to time accordingly. to be paid him quarterly.

The Petition of John Procter junr. Usher of the North Writing School praying for an Addition to his Salary was read and after some debate Voted that the sum of Thirty pounds p Annum old tenor bills be added to his Salary the same to Commence on the Twenty second day of February last, and that the Selectmen be and hereby are desired to give drafts on the Treasury for the same from time to time accordingly, to be paid him quarterly.

[61.] The Petition of Mr. Samuel Holyoke Master of the Writing School in Queen Street (refer'd over to this time) praying for an addition to his Salary was now read, & after some debate thereon, Voted that the same be further refer'd to the next General Town Meeting.

The Petition of Mr. Samuel White Usher of the North Grammar School (referr'd over to this time) praying for an addition to his Salary was now read, and after some debate thereon, Voted the same be further referr'd to the next General Town Meeting.

Upon a Motion made & Seconded by Several of the Inhabitants

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It was Voted that the Selectmen be and hereby are desired to Visit the several Schools in the Town, and particularly Enquire into their State & Circumstances, and the proficiency of the Scholars that attend at said Schools, and report thereon as soon as may be.

Upon the Motion made by the Selectmen at the Opening of the Meeting relating to leasing out the Lands & Marsh on the Neck &c^{a}.

Voted that the Selectmen be and hereby are desired & Impowered to Lease out the Towns Lands and Marsh on the Neck to such Person or Persons, at such Rents, and for such time as they shall think most for the Interest and Advantage of the Town not exceeding twenty one years, and that they also Lease out the Marsh Land at the bottom of the Common for a term not exceeding Forty years, the Town Vote or Order made & pass'd the 13th: of March A.D. 1732. to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourn'd till tomorrow morning 9. a Clock.

Tuesday Morning, 9. a Clock. the Town Mett according to Adjournment.

The Petition of John Fenno praying he may be chosen or appointed Master or keeper of the Granary, read at the Opening of the Meeting was now read again, and thereupon the Selectmen Inform'd the Town that M^{r}. Willoughby the present Master of the Granary who had the Misfortune the last Summer to break one of his Legs, [**62.**] Was in hopes he should be able to attend the Service again in May next, Whereupon It was Voted that the Choice of a Master of the Granary be referr'd to May Meeting.

Upon a Motion Made & Seconded, It was Voted —— That no person that has been chosen a Constable within Ten years past shall be now chosen again. ——

Messrs.	William Clough	Pay	Constables.
	Simon Eliot	Sworne	
	Eneas Mackey	Excus'd	
	Elias Thomas	Sworne	
	Nathan Simpson	Sworne.	
	Peter Roberts	Sworne	

were chosen Constables for the year ensuing.

Messrs.	Nathaniel Barber	Sworne	Clerks of the Market.
	Thomas Salter	Sworn.	
	Nathaniel Gardner	Sworn	
	William Merchant	Sworne	
	John Darrell		
	Thomas Stoddard	Sworn	
	Joseph Bradford	Sworn	
	Samuel Parkman	Sworn	
	John Greenough	Sworn	
	Samuel Holland	Sworn	
	William Palfrey		
	Alexander Sears	Sworn.	

were chose Clerks of the Market for the year ensuing.

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Messrs. Josiah Carter
Samuel Hastings
James Dawson
William Currier } Sealers of Leather.
John Allen
Nathaniel Hodgdon
Robert Williams

were chosen Sealers of Leather for the year Ensuing.

[63.] Messrs. James Tilestone
John Lewis Vintenon
Francis Warden
William Bearsto } Fence Viewers.
William Moore
Joshua Thornton

were chose Fence Viewers for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Jonathan Payson
Daniel Ray
John Harris
Knight Leverett
Jabez Hunt
Nicholas Salisbury
John Hunt jun^{r}. } Scavingers.
John Cravath
Joseph Roby
Ellis Wilson
John Tayler
Henry Newell

were chose Scavingers for the year ensuing.

M^{r}. Isaac Gridley. Surveyor of Hemp.

Messrs. Nathaniel Gardner
Richard Hubbard } Informers of Deer &c^{a}..

M^{r}. Samuel Cowell. Hayward.

The Selectmen. Surveyors of Highways.

Messrs. John Scottow
Joseph Webb
George Skinner } Hogreeves.
Robert Wlliams Baker

were chose Hogreeves for the Year ensuing.

Nothing done thereon. ——

[64.] Messrs. Harvey Thomas
John Hobbs
Thomas Serjeant
Benjamin Ballard
Isaac Fowles
Sendal Williams } Cullers of Staves
Benjamin Sault
James Alexander
Joseph Dyer
Joseph Ingraham

were chose Cullers of Staves for the year ensuing.

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Messrs. Jeremiah Cushing
John Adams N^o. End
Thomas Craft
Edward Moberly
Joseph White
William Paine
Edward Richards
William Brown jun^r.
James Barnard
Isaac Vergoose
William Parkman
Ebenezer Cushing
Thomas Warden
} Viewers of Boards, Shingles &c^a.

were chose Viewers of Boards Shingles &c^a. for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Jeremiah Belknap
Samuel Bridgham
John Salter
} were chose Com^tee: for Purchasing Grain.

The said Committee are desired and Impowered to give all needful directions to the Keeper of the Granary, respecting the Quantitys of Grain sold, and Setting the Price thereof from time to time as occasion shall require.

[65.] The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for a Clerk of Faneuil Hall Market, and upon Collecting 'em, it appeared that M^r. John Staniford was Unanimously Chosen. ——

Upon a Motion made & Seconded, It was unanimously Voted that the Thanks of the Town be given to Thomas Hutchinson Esqr. for the great and faithful Services by him done for the Town in Transacting and managing the Affairs thereof as one of the Selectmen for Several years past.

The Selectmen Informed the Town that the Two hundred & Fifteen Fire Arms given to the Town by the hon^ble. Col^o. Thomas Fitch dec^d. were lately Impressed by the Government for the Service of the present Expedition against Cape Breton; and then laid before the Town a Letter they had received from the Committee of War relating to said Fire Arms, & their Answer to the same, as also a Memorial they had preferr'd to his Excellency the Captain General praying said Fire Arms may not be Impressed &c^a. —— desiring the direction of the Town as to their further proceedings in this Matter, Whereupon after some Debate It was Voted that the Selectmen be & hereby are desired forthwith to Apply to the Government or the Committee of War to obtain of them the full Value of said Fire Arms and upon receiving the same they are also desired to purchase a like Number of good Fire Arms & Bayonets in the best & cheapest manner they can.

The Inhabitants proceeded to bring in their Votes for a County Treasurer which being Collected were according to Law sealed up by Constable Thomas to be by him kept & returned to the next Quarter Sessions to be held for the County of Suffolk.

The Inhabitants proceeded to bring in their Votes for a Town Treasurer and upon Collecting of 'em it appeared that the Honble. Joseph Wadsworth Esqr. was chosen by a great Majority, and he

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was accordingly Sworne to a faithful discharge of his Duty in that Office.

[66.] Upon a Motion made, It was Voted that twelve Collectors be chose to Collect all such Rates and Taxes as shall be Committed to them the ensuing year, but this Vote being at the desire of the Inhabitants immediately Reconsidered, It was thereupon Voted that Six persons only be chose for Collecting all such Rates and Taxes as shall be Committed to them the ensuing year. Also Voted that nine pence on the pound be and hereby is Allowed to be paid to such Collectors as shall be chosen, for the sums they shall Collect the year ensuing they paying unto the Town Treasurer one half part of the whole Sum they shall be respectively Obliged to pay him within three Months from the time they shall receive the Tax books from the Assessors, and the other half part in three months after; And also paying to the province Treasurer one half part of the whole Sum they shall be respectively Obliged to pay him in six Months from the time they shall receive the said Books from the Assessors, and the other half part in Six Months after, and in case either of the said Collectors shall fail paying the Province and Town Treasurers in the above manner, the Collector so failing shall not be Entitled to the aforesaid Allowance of nine pence on the pound for Collecting but wholly forfeit the same, provided also that the s^d^. Collectors give bond with sufficient Suretys to the Satisfaction of the Selectmen for the faithful Discharge of their Duty in said Office. ——

Then the Town proceeded to the Choice of Six Collectors accordingly, and upon Collecting and sorting the Votes it appeared that

Messrs. Joseph White Esqr. sworne.	Harrison Gray. Excus'd.
Elias Dupee. sworn.	Joseph Birch. Excus'd.
Benjamin Edwards sworn.	Joseph Prince. Excus'd.

were chosen. Adjourned to 3 o'Clock in the Afternoon.

[67.] Tuesday, 3 a Clock in the Afternoon, the Town met according to Adjournment.

M^r^. Edward Bromfield gave the Town to Understand that he was Informed that Several persons who are lyable by Law to serve as Constables had given money to the late Constables if they would not put their names into the List when the Choice came on. — Whereupon it was Voted that said Constables should be sent for and they being heard thereupon, it appeared that the Information given to M^r^. Bromfield was groundless.

Upon a Motion made & Seconded by Several that the Vote pass'd yesterday for ringing the old South bell at 5. 9. & 11 a Clock may be Reconsidered, it was Voted accordingly & then it was moved and Voted that the Bell at Faneuil Hall Market be rung at those hours (instead of the old South Church Bell) until the Bell of the old Brick Church be repaired.

Messrs. Jacob Emmons } Sworne.
William Story } Sworne.

were chose Constables for the year ensuing.

Voted that the Consideration of raising Money be referr'd to the General Town Meeting in May next.

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Voted that all the Business and Matters of this Meeting remaining unfinished be referr'd over to the next General Town Meeting, to be then Considered of, and Acted upon.

Then the Meeting was dismiss'd.

[68.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualifyed & warned in public Town Meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the Eighth day of April Anno Dom. — 1745.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting Read, and then, The Inhabitants proceeded to bring in their Votes for a Moderator and upon Collecting 'em it appeared that the Honble: Thomas Cushing Esqr. was unanimously chosen. ——

Upon a Motion made, the Warrant for calling this Meeting and the Constables Return thereon was read again, and thereby it appeared that William Wait Wallis (who at the last Meeting was Chose a Constable but upon Application by him then made was Excus'd) sign'd as one of the Constables certifying that he had warn'd the Inhabitants living in Ward N°. 3. but Several of the Inhabitants objecting to the legality of the warning, and the said Wallis being heard thereupon said, that notwithstanding he was Excus'd by the Town he apprehending he might serve as a Constable if he inclined went before a Justice of the peace who swore him into said Office, & therefore it was that he warned N°. 3. but upon searching the Records of the last Town Meeting, it appeared that after he was Excus'd, another person was chosen in his room, Whereupon it was determin'd that the said Wallis had not legal power to warn the Inhabitants of said Ward of this Meeting, and so the Meeting was dismissed for insufficient Warning.

[69.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualifyed and legally warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Friday the twelfth day of April Anno Dom. — 1745.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting, Read.

The Inhabitants proceeded to bring in their Votes for a Moderator and upon Collecting' em it appeared that the Honble: Thos. Cushing Esqr. was unanimously chosen.

The Petition of Messrs. John Goldthwait, John Staniford and Jacob Sheafe Collectors of Taxes &c^{a}. praying the Assessors may be directed to deliver them the Tax books for the year 1744. &c^{a}. was read, thereupon the Selectmen informed the Town that the Assessors were under some difficulty relating to their power in delivering the Tax Books to said Collectors, praying the Town would take the same into Consideration, and give directions therein to the Assessors accordingly.

Voted that the Town proceed to the Choice of three Collectors of Taxes in the room of Messrs. Joseph Prince Harrison Gray & Joseph Birch who were chose the last Meeting. but refuse to serve, accordingly Messrs: John Goldthwait John Staniford & Jacob Sheafe were chose Collectors of all the Taxes that shall be committed to them to Collect the ensuing year, they to have the same

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Allowance for Collecting the Taxes as was made to the Collectors by the Town Vote of the 26th. of March last and upon the same Conditions and Limitations as to their paying in to the Province & Town Treasurers the Sums they are to gather in, and no otherwise, and to give bond &cs. to the Satisfaction of the Selectmen.

Upon a Motion made & Seconded by divers of the Inhabitants.

Voted, that the Selectmen be and hereby are desired to Represent to the Honble. General Court that the Assessors of this Town for the year 1744. were Interrupted in delivering the Assessments of [70.] That year to the Collectors then chosen, and apply that the said Assessors may be impowered (notwithstanding the year be expired) to commit the said Assessment to the Collectors chosen for the present year, and in case any Objection should be made to it, that it be Recomended to the Representatives of the Town to Explain & Enforce the Petition with the proper reasons.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourn'd to Monday the 22d. inst. at four aClock in the afternoon in order to receive an answer from the Collectors now chosen whether they will Serve or not.

Monday the 22d. of April, four aClock in the afternoon, the Town mett according to Adjournment.

Messrs. John Goldthwait & Jacob Sheafe who were chose Collectors of Taxes at the last Meeting refusing to serve, the Inhabitants proceeded to bring in their Votes for two Collectors in their room, and upon Sorting 'em it appeared that Messrs. Andrew Cunningham & William Larrabee were chose Collectors of all such Taxes as shall be Committed to them to Collect within the ensuing year, they to have the same Allowance for Collecting the Taxes as was made to the Collectors by the Town Vote of the 26th. of March last, & upon the same Conditions and Limitations as to their paying in to the Province and Town Treasurers the Sums they are to gather in, and no otherwise, They to give Bond &cs. to the Satisfaction of the Selectmen. ——

Voted that this Meeting be adjourned to Wednesday the 24th. inst. at four aClock in the afternoon, in order to receive an Answer from the Collectors now chose whether they will Serve or not.

Wednesday, the 24th. of April, four aClock in the afternoon the Town mett according to Adjournment.

The Honble. Thomas Cushing Esqr. the Moderator of this Meeting being So indisposed as that he cannot attend the Business of the Meeting [71.] Voted that the Honble. Joseph Wadsworth Esqr. be Moderator in his room and then the Selectmen Inform'd the Town that Joseph White Esqr. Messrs. Elias Dupee, Benjs. Edwards, John Staniford, Andrew Cunningham & William Larrabee, who have been chose Collectors of all such Taxes as shall be Committed to them to Collect in the ensuing year, have Accepted of that Office upon the Conditions mentioned in the Town Vote of the 26th. of March last, and had Each of 'em given bonds for the faithful discharge of their duty in said Office accordingly.

Upon a Motion made & Seconded that the three Collectors of Taxes Vizt. Joseph Prince Harrison Gray & Joseph Birch who were chose into that office at the Town meeting in March last and

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refus'd Serving may be Excus'd from paying the fine arising upon their refusal.

Voted that said Joseph Prince, Harrison Gray & Joseph Birch be Excused from paying said fine accordingly.

Then the Meeting was dismissed.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualifyed and lawfully Warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Friday the third day of May A.D. 1745.

Prayer was made by the Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Samuel Checkley.

The Precept & Warrant for calling the Meeting . . . Read.

Sundry Laws . . . . . Read.

Samuel Adams Esqr. One of the Selectmen in their name propos'd to the Inhabitants Assembled to proceed to the choice of [72.] One of more persons to Serve for and represent them in a Great & General Court or Assembly to be held at Boston upon Wednesday the Twenty ninth day of May instant, and in order thereto to Consider & Ascertain the Number to be Elected, accordingly Voted to proceed to the Choice of Four Representatives, and it was declared that the Poll would be Closed at twelve aClock.

The Votes being Collected the Number of Voters were found to be Three hundred and forty two & upon sorting 'em it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen. . Vizt.

	Votes.
The Honble. Samuel Welles Esqr.	175.
The Honble. Thomas Cushing Esqr.	326.
Thomas Hutchinson Esqr.	186.
Andrew Oliver Esqr.	218.

The Election of Representatives being ended, and the same being declared by the Selectmen.

The Inhabitants proceeded to choose a Moderator, & the Votes being Collected it appeared that the Hon. Edwd. Hutchinson Esqr. was chosen.

A Petition of Francis Willoughby keeper of the Granary Setting forth that in May last, when in the Service of the Town at said Granary he had the Misfortune to break his Leg by a Fall, whereby he has Endured much pain, and been put to great Expence for Doctors Medicines &c^{a}. praying the Towns Consideration thereof and that some Allowance may be made him in his melancholy Circumstances &c^{a}. —— Read.

A Petition of John Staniford, John Goldthwait & Jacob Sheafe Collectors of Taxes for the year 1743, praying that the Assessors may be Allowed & Impowered to Abate the Taxes of all such persons as Enlisted in the late Expedition to Cape Breton that did not pay before, for reasons given in said Petition. Read.

[73.] M^{r}. Jeremiah Allen moved that Instructions may be given to the Representatives chose this day that they Use their utmost Endeavours that the Resolve of the General Court prolonging the time for drawing the Government Lottery and disposing the Tickets be repealed, and the Money paid to the Managers for

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the Tickets sold may be returned to the possessors or purchasers of said Tickets.

Mr. Jonathan Williams moved that an order may be passed for ringing the old South Church Bell at the hours of 5. 11. & 9 aClock.

Mr. Middlecott Cooke moved that the Town would make some Consideration to the old Brick Church for their Bell which was lately broke as he apprehends in the Service of the Town.

Mr. Samuel Parkman moved that the Town would appoint some suitable place for all lost Goods to be carryed when found.

Capt. John Steele moved that the Town would give Orders that the Sconce at the South Battery be Repaired.

Joseph White Esqr. one of the Collectors of Taxes moved that the Town would determine how long time the Assessors should sit upon Abatements.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourn'd to 3 o'Clock this afternoon.

Afternoon, The Town being assembled according to Adjournment.

Isaiah Barret. Sworne.

was chose a Constable for the year ensuing.

John Holyoke. Sworne.

was chose one of the Clerks of the Market for the year ensuing.

The Selectmens Report on the Visitation of the public Schools, Read, And Voted that this Report be Accepted, and that the Gentlemen the Selectmen be desired to Visit the public Schools the Ensuing year and that they desire such Gentlemen to Accompany them therein, as they shall think proper, and report thereon.

[74.] The Selectmen having mentioned in said Report that they Apprehend the Number of Scholars in the North Grammar School so small as that there is no Occasion for an Usher, It was thereupon Moved that the Petition of Mr. Samuel White Usher of said School preferr'd last March Meeting & Continued to this time may be now Read, and the same being accordingly done It was Voted That the said Usher Mr. White be Continued in said School until his next Quarter is compleat and be paid as heretofore, & then be discharged, and that there be Allowed him the Sum of Thirty pounds old tenor over and above his Salary, as a Gratuity for his Services in said School, and that the Selectmen give him a Draft for the same on the Treasury accordingly.

The Petition of Mr. Samuel Holyoke Master of the Writing School in Queen Street preferr'd at the Town Meeting in May last & Continued to this time, praying for an Addition to his Salary was now taken into Consideration and after Some Debate thereon A Question was put, Whether any Addition should be made to Mr. Holyoke's Salary, And it pass'd in the Negative.

The Petition of John Staniford, John Goldthwait & Jacob Sheafe Collectors of Taxes for the year 1743. read at the opening of the Meeting, now came under Consideration, and after some Debate thereon It was Moved & Seconded by Several of the Inhabitants that a Committee may be appointed to take from said Collectors a List of such persons as they Apprehend were not able to pay their Taxes that year, and present the same to the Town at

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their next Meeting for Consideration, And a Question being put, Whether such a Committee should be appointed. Voted in the Negative. ——and that said Petition be dismissed.

[**75.**] The Petition of Francis Willoughby read at the Opening of the Meeting praying some Allowance or Grant may be made him for the Misfortune he mett with in breaking his Leg in the Service of the Town, was now taken into Consideration, and after some debate thereon, A Question was put, whether the prayer of his Petition should be granted, And it pass'd in the Negative. and that said Petition be dismiss'd.

The Inhabitants proceeded to the Choice of a keeper of the Granary in the room of Mr. Francis Willoughby who has resigned, and upon Collecting the Votes it appeared that Mr. John Fenno was chosen, he to give bond with good Suretys to the Satisfaction of the Selectmen for his good behaviour in that Office.

Mr. Jeremiah Allen mentioned to the Town that he would post up the Treasurers new books, and that he does not desire any premium or Allowance for the same, the Town accepted of his kind offer, and Voted that he be desired to take said Books and post 'em up accordingly.

The Motion of Mr. Jeremiah Allen made in the forenoon that Instructions be given to the Representatives this day chose that they use their utmost Endeavours to have the Resolve of the General Court prolonging the time for drawing the Governments Lottery and disposing of the Tickets repealed, and that the Money paid to the Managers of said Lottery for the Tickets sold be return'd to the Possessors or Purchasers of such Tickets, was now taken into Consideration, and after some debate thereon ——

Voted that a Committee be chose to draw up Instructions for the Representatives relating to said Lottery accordingly, also Voted that ——

James Allen Esqr.
Ezekiel Lewis Esqr. &
Mr. Jeremiah Allen

be the said Committee [**76.**] Who are desired to lay the draft of their Instructions before the Town for their Consideration at the intended Adjournment of this Meeting.

The Motion of Joseph White Esqr. that the Town would determine how long time the Assessors should sit upon Abatements was Considered of, and Voted that the Assessors be and hereby are allowed to sit upon Abatements until the last day of September next and no longer.

The Motion of Capt. John Steele one of the Selectmen, for repairing the Sconce at the South Battery was Considered of, and thereupon Voted that the Selectmen be and hereby are desired to repair the same in the best manner they can.

The Motion of Mr. Samuel Parkman that the Town would appoint some suitable place for all lost Goods to be carryed when found was considered of, but nothing done thereon.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourn'd to Friday the 17th Instant, at four a Clock in the forenoon.

Friday, the 17th of May 1745. four a clock in the afternoon, the Town mett according to Adjournment.

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Voted, That the Sum of Seventy five pounds bills of the old tenor bills be and hereby is allowed to be paid out of the Town Treasury unto Mr. John Staniford in full for his Service as Clerk of Faneuil Hall Market the year past.

Voted that the Sum of Two Hundred & Fifty pounds old tenor bills be and hereby is allowed to be paid out of the Town Treasury unto the Honble Joseph Wadsworth Esqr. in full for his Services as Town Treasurer the year past.

Mr. Treasurer Wadsworth presented an Estimate of what may be proper for the Town to Raise for Defreying the Charges of the Ensuing year.

[77.] Voted a Grant of Fifteen Thousand Pounds old tenor bills to be Raised by a Tax upon Polls and Estates within the Town of Boston for Relief of the Poor, and defreying other necessary Charges arising within and for said Town the year ensuing.

The Committee appointed to Examine the Treasurers Acco^ts. now made their Report which was Read & Accepted, and by order put on file. ——

James Allen Esqr. Ezekiel Lewis Esqr. & Mr. Jeremiah Allen a Committee appointed the third instant, to draw up Instructions for the Representatives relating to the Lottery now presented a draft of Instructions they had prepared, which being read, A Motion was thereupon made, & Seconded by Several of the Inhabitants, and a Question put, whether the Town would Accept of said Draft of Instructions, and it was Voted in the Negative.

Mr. Jonathan Williams's Motion made the 3d. instant and Referr'd to this time for ringing the Bell of the old South Church at the hours of — 5, 11, & 9 a Clock was taken into Consideration, and after some debate thereon, Voted that the said Bell be rung at the hours of five and nine a Clock, until the Town shall order otherwise.

The List of Jurors for the Inferiour & Superiour Courts being prepared by the Selectmen according to a late Act of this Province, Voted that it referr'd to the Selectmen to put into the respective Jury boxes of said Courts, the Names of such persons as they shall Judge qualifyed to Serve as Jurors at said Courts.

The Selectmen reported on the Accompt of Mr. Francis Willoughby late keeper of the Granary, that he had in his hands as the Towns Stock there Two hundred & twenty four Bushels of Indian Corn, & eighteen Bushels of Rye amounting to One hundred & nine pounds Sixteen Shillings, & in Cash Five hundred & twenty four pounds nineteen Shillings & three pence, being in the whole Six hundred & thirty four pounds fifteen Shillings and three pence old tenor—, which they have delivered to Mr. John Fenno, the present keeper of the Granary, who is now accountable to the Town for the same, ——

[78.] Voted that Joshua Winslow Esqr. Mr. Thomas Oxnard, John Wheelwright Esqr. Mr. Ebenezer Holmes and Mr. Joseph Marion be a Committee to Audit the Town Treasurers Acco^ts. for the year ensuing and make Report as usual. — And that they also Audit the Acco^ts. of the Overseers of the Poor respecting the Almshouse, and the Workhouse, and to attend doing the same at

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the usual place of said Overseers Meeting, and said Accounts being Audited the said Committee are desired to make report thereon as usual.

Then the Meeting was dismiss'd.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualifyed and legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Tuesday the tenth day of September A.D. 1745.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting, Read.

The Inhabitants proceeded to the Choice of a Moderator and upon Collecting the Votes it appeared that the Honble. Thomas Cushing Esqr. was unanimously chosen.

The Inhabitants then proceeded to Consider of the Affair mentioned in the Warrant for calling this Meeting, which was to take some Method to prevent D^r^. Sylvester Gardners making a Hospital of a house he lately purchased of Andrew Oliver Esqr. situate in Purchase Street in said Boston. —— but they being Informed that said D^r^. Gardner had reconveyed said house to M^r^. Oliver again since the issuing of said Warrant and that he did not design to make a Hospital there as has been Suggested, the Inhabitants proceeded no farther herein.

[79.] Whereupon a Motion was made that the Town would now Consider of some Method to prevent any person or persons building or Improving any house for the future for an Hospital or Hospitals in this Town for the reception of persons sick of infectious and Epidemical diseases, and after some Debate thereon, It was Voted That the Representatives of this Town be and hereby are desired at the next Session of the Great and General Court to Use their best Endeavours that a Law or Act may be pass'd to prevent or prohibit any House or Buildings being Erected or Used as an Hospital for the reception of persons sick of infectious and contagious distempers within any Town or Towns in this province without Licence first had and obtained therefor from the Selectmen of the Towns where such Buildings are propos'd to be Erected and Used.

Then the Meeting was dismiss'd.

At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly Qualified and lawfully Warned in Public Town Meeting Assembled, at Faneuil Hall on Monday the tenth day of March, Anno Domini 1745.

Prayer being made by the Rev^d^. M^r^. Mather Byles.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting, Read.

The Inhabitants proceeded to the Choice of a Moderator (by a written Vote) and upon collecting the Votes it Appeared that the Honble Thomas Cushing Esqr. was chosen by a great majority and an officer was ordered to wait upon at his house to Inform him thereof, who returned and brought word from M^r^. Cushing that he was much indispos'd and could not Attend the Business of this meeting, and thereupon the Inhabitants were directed to bring in their Votes for A Moderator in his Room and they being collected

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it Appeared that the Honble James Allen Esqr. was Chosen by a Considerable Majority.

[80.] Ezekiel Goldthwait was unanimously chosen Town Clerk for the year ensuing, & Sworne to the faithfull Discharge of his Duty in that Office by the Honble Jacob Wendell Esqr.

Sundry laws —— Read.

Sundry Petitions. Read.

Viz^{t}.

John Osborne Esqr. & others relating to the Pavement at the Lower End of Milk Street, —— M^{r}. John Staniford that the Assessors for 1745. may be impowered to make him an Abatement of former Taxes Committed to him to Collect. —— James Allen Esqr. for Liberty to remove his Gap at the Outwharves the wedth thereof northward. M^{r}. Samuel Gibson under master of the South Grammar School for an Addition to his Sallary. Mr Abia Holbrook, Master of the South writing School in the Common for an Usher in his School, and that he may be Reimburs'd what he has already paid for Assistance in his School.

Sundry motions made,

Viz^{t}.

John Fayerweather Esqr. that the Town would consider of Repairing the South Battery, and otherwise better Fortify the Town than now it is.

M^{r}. Jeremiah Allen, that a Committee may be chosen to Audit the Accounts of the Committee appointed to build Fortifications &c^{a}. within this Town and make Report &c^{a}.

M^{r}. Jacob Parker that Fox hill in the Common may be Appropriated and disposed of in such a manner as will be most for the Interest of the Town.

Joseph White Esqr. on behalf of himself and the other Collectors of Taxes for some further allowance to be made them for Collecting of Taxes.

M^{r}. Robert Rand, that the Town would determine whether the Fines arising on any persons refusing to Serve in the Office to which he is Chosen shall be paid in Bills of the old tenor, or the same Sum in bills of the last tenor.

Jacob Wendell Esqr on behalf of the overseers of the Poor that the Town would purchase Bridewell house &c^{a}. for a mad house.

[81.] Samuel Adams Esqr. that the Town would consider whether it be not necessary to Erect another Powder house, and Act thereon accordingly.

M^{r}. Jeremiah Allen, that a Committee may be Appointed to lay before the Honble House of Representatives (who are the Guardians of the Rights and Liberties of the people) the Grievances this Town Labour under by reason of the arbitrary and illegal proceedings of the Governour and Council in repeatedly granting press warrants, as also the male behaviour of some of their Officers.

Capt. John Steel, that some Method may be taken, to prevent Negroes keeping Hogs.

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Jacob Wendell Esqr. that the Town would purchase 500 Ton of Timber for their use as there sho'd be Occasion.

M^{r}. Isaac White, That the Selectmen be desired to wait on his Excellency the Captain General, desiring of him that three Vessells may be purchased, in order to be sunk in such places in the Channel as shall be thought best in Case the Town sho'd be attacked by an Enemy.

Capt. John Steel one of the Selectmen Informed the Town that their Shops on the North Side of Faneuil Hall market were very much out of Repair and gone to Decay praying the directions of the Town concerning 'em.

Capt. John Steel informed the Town that the Selectmen had recēd the Sum of Six hundred & Sixty six pounds thirteen shillings & six pence being a Grant made by the General Court for purchasing of Cannon and other Warlike Stores for the use of the north Battery and pray'd the Direction of the Town relating to the same.

Voted to proceed to the Choice of Seven Selectmen.

And the Votes being accordingly brought in & Sorted it appeared that the following Gentlemen were Chosen. Viz^{t}.

Samuel Adams Esqr.
Jonas Clarke Esqr.
M^{r}. Thos. Hancock
Capt John Steel
Capt William Salter
Capt Henry Atkins, &
Abiel Walley Esqr.
} Selectmen.

[82.] Voted that this Meeting be Adjourn'd to 3 o'Clock P.M.

Three oClock in the Afternoon the Town met according to Adjournment.

The following Gentlemen were chosen Overseers of the Poor for the Year ensuing, —— Viz^{t}.

The Honble. Jacob Wendell Esqr.
William Tyler Esqr.
Col. John Hill
Thos. Hubbard Esqr.
Daniel Henchman Esqr.
M^{r}. Edward Bromfield
Col^{o}. William Downe
Andrew Oliver Esqr.
Capt John Phillips
Mr. Isaac Walker
George Rogers Esqr.
M^{r}. Eben^{r} Storer

The Motion made by M^{r}. Robert Rand relating to the Fines to be paid by those persons who refuse to Serve in the respective Offices, to which they are Chosen now came under Consideration, and after some Debate.

Voted that any person or persons chosen to any Office in the Town for the Year Ensuing, who in Case of refusal is obliged to pay any Fine or penalty, be Excused from serving in such Office

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provided he or they pay their respective Fines in Bills of the old tenor as the several persons did who were the last year chose & refused to serve.

Voted that twelve Constables be Chose distinct from Collectors of Taxes, accordingly.

Messrs.	Samuel Welles jun^{r}.	Pay	Constables.
	Peter Chardon	paid in 1735.	
	Thomas Hawding	paid in 1735	
	Capt Nathl. Allen	paid in 1743	
	John Hammock	paid in 1736.	
	James Atkinson	Pay	
	Robert Jenkins	Appeals to Sessions	
[83.]	Ezekiel Lewis jun^{r}.	paid in 1743.	
	John Jones	paid in 1735.	
	Thomas Raymond	Excused	
	Andrew Hall jun^{r}.	Pay	
	Jonathan Simpson	paid in 1743.	

The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for a Town Treasurer and upon Sorting 'em it appeared that The Honble Joseph Wadsworth Esqr. was chosen by a great Majority & Sworn into that Office by the Honble. Samuel Welles Esqr.

The Freeholders then proceeded to bring in their Votes for a Register of Deeds and Conveyances for the County of Suffolk, and they being Collected were according to Law, Sealed up by m^{r}. Constable Story to be by him kept & Returned to the next Quarter Sessions, to be held for this County.

The Inhabitants proceeded to bring in their Votes for a County Treasurer which being Collected were according to Law Sealed up by Constable Story, to be by him kept and returned to the next Quarter Sessions, to be held for this County.

Messrs.	Story Daws	Sworne	Constables.
	Joseph Dyer	Pay	
	William Winter	Sworne	
	Eneas Maccoy	pay	
	John Indicott Junr.	pay	
	Thomas March	pay	
	Joseph Clark jun^{r}.	pay	
	Oxenbridge Thacher jun^{r}.	pay	
	Daniel Williams paid in 1743.		

were Chose Constables for the year ensuing.

M^{r}. Jeremiah Allen's motion made at the opening of the Meeting Viz^{t}. That a Committee may be appointed to lay before the Honble. House of Representatives who are the Guardians of the Rights and Liberties of the people the Grievances this Town Labour under by reason of the Arbitrary and illegal proceedings of the Governour and Council in repeatedly Granting press Warrants as also the male behaviour of some of their Officers, was now taken [84.] Into Consideration, and after a Short debate thereon —— Voted that a Committee be chosen to draw up a Petition to the Honble. House of Representatives relating to the said Grievances mentioned in said motion, —— And that Messrs. Jeremiah Allen,

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Thomas Green, John Jones, John Gooch, and Samuel Adams Esqr. be the said Committee who are desired to make Report hereon as soon as may be.

Voted that the Consideration of the present Fortifycations, and otherwise better Fortifying the Town than now it is come on tomorrow in the forenoon at Eleven o'Clock.

Adjourned to, Tomorrow morning nine aClock. A.M.

The Town met according to Adjournment.

Voted that the Thanks of the Town be & hereby is given to the Clerks of the Market that served in that office the last year for their good Services done the Town.

Messrs.	Nathaniel Barber	Excus'd.
	Thomas Salter	Excus'd.
	Nathaniel Gardner . . .	Excus'd.
	William Merchant	Excus'd.
	Thomas Stoddard	Excus'd.
	Joseph Bradford	Excus'd.
	Samuel Parkman	Excus'd.
	John Greenough	Excus'd.
	Samuel Holland	Excus'd.
	Alexander Sears	Excus'd.
	Ephraim Copeland	Sworne.
	John Kneeland	Pay.

were chose Clerks of the Market for the year ensuing.

Messrs.	Josiah Carter		Sealers of Leather.
	Saml. Hastings . . .	Sworne.	
	Robert Williams . . .	Excus'd.	
	Nathaniel Hodgdon . .	Sworne.	
	James Dawson . . .	Sworne.	
	John Allen	Sworne	
	W^{m}. Currier	Sworne	

[85.] Messrs. James Tileston . . . Sworne
Francis Warden . . Sworne
Nathaniel Vial . . Sworne
William More . . Sworne
William Bearsto . . Sworne
James Barnard . . Sworne
} Fence Viewers.

were chose Fence Viewers for the year ensuing.

Messrs. John Taylor
Joseph Savel
John Nowell
Jonathan Payson
Joseph Jackson
John Harris
David Cutler
William Hall
Benj^{a}. Fitch
Capt. Nathaniel Vial
Moses Tyler
John Ruddock
} Scavingers.

were chose Scavingers for the year ensuing.

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Mr. Isaac Gridley, Surveyor of Hemp.
Messrs. Nathaniel Gardner, Richard Hubbard } Informers of Deer.
Mr. Nathaniel Band, Hayward.
The Select Men, Surveyors of Highways.
Messrs. George Skinner, John Lee, Blacksmith, Robert Williams, Baker, Joseph Grouard } Hogreeves.
Nothing done thereon, Tythingmen.
[86.] Messrs. Harvey Thomas, Benjamin Ballard, John Hobbs, Joseph Ingraham, Sendal Williams, Isaac Fowle, Peter Cotta, Benjamin Sault, James Alexander, Thomas Serjant } Cullers of Staves.
were Chose Cullers of Staves for the year Ensuing.

Messrs. Edward Moberly	Sworn	Viewers of Boards Shingles.
Edward Richards	Sworn	
William Paine	Sworn	
William Parkman	Sworn	
Joseph White	Sworn	
Isaac Vergoose	Sworn	
James Barnard	Sworn	
Thomas Warden	Sworn	
Moses Eayres	Sworn	
Andrew Symmes	Sworn	

were Chosen Viewers of Boards Shingles &c^s. for the year ensuing.

Messrs. John Ball	Sworne	Constables.
Benjamin Renkin	Pay	
John Coles	Sworn	
John Sweetser	Sworne	
Thomas Mower	Pay	

were chosen Constables for the year ensuing.
Messrs. Jeremiah Belknap, John Salter, Thomas Tyler } Committee for Purchasing Grain.
were chosen Committee for purchasing Grain for the year ensuing.

The said Committee are desired and Impowered to give all [87.] Needful directions to the keeper of the Grainnary respecting the Quantitys of Grain to be Sold, and setting the price thereof from time to time as occasion shall require.

The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for a Clerk of Faneuil Hall Market, and upon Collecting 'em it Appeared that Mr. Abijah Adams was chosen into that Office.

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Voted that Seven Assessors be chose for the year ensuing and upon Collecting the Votes it appeared that.

Messrs. Richard Buckley	Sworn	Assessors.
Joshua Blanchard		
Jacob Parker	Sworn	
Daniel Pecker	Sworn	
William Fairfield	Sworn	
Nathaniel Barber	Sworn	
Joseph Fitch	Sworne	

were chosen Assessors for the year ensuing.

The Petition of M^{r}. Abia Holbrook master of the South writing School in the Common, read at the opening of the Meeting, setting forth that his School in the Common 220 Scholars which is near 50 more than were there last march meeting and finding it impossible to tend and Instruct such a number of Scholars himself was obliged to appoint his Brother to tend one part of the Scholars and to pay for his Board Seven months past otherwise a great number of Scholars must inevitably have been turned off without any Learning. — He therefore prays that the Town would be pleased to take the premisses in Consideration and Grant him such assistance as may be requisite to enable him to Discharge his Duty to the Children with that Care and Fidelity which may justly be expected from him, and also that he may be reimburs'd the Charge which he has paid for his Brothers Board as above mentioned now came under Consideration, and it was thereupon, Voted that the said Abia Holbrook be Reimburs'd the sums he has paid for his Brothers Board as above and the Selectmen is desired to give him a Draft on the Treasury for the same — Also Voted that there be and hereby is allowed an usher for said School until the [88.] Town shall otherwise order, and that his Sallary be one hundred & Fifty pounds old tenor Bills p Annum to Commence from the time he shall enter into that Service and paid Quarterly.

The Motion of M^{r}. Jeremiah Allen "That a Committee may be chose to Audit the Accounts of the Committee appointed to Build Fortifycations &C^{a}. within this Town, was now taken into Consideration and after some Debate thereon, Voted that

M^{r}. Thomas Green
James Allen Esqr. &
John Fayerweather Esqr.

be a Committee to Audit the said Accounts accordingly, and they are desired to make Report hereon as soon as may be.

The Selectmens Report on M^{r}. John Fenno's Account of the Grainary for the year past as entred in his Book (and on file in the Town Clerks Office) Read & Voted that the said Report be accepted, and accordingly that M^{r}. John Fenno be further accountable to the Town for Two hundred and Sixty two Bushells & a half of Indian Corn, Eighteen Bushells & $\frac{3}{8}$^{ths} of Rye, and the Sum of Four hunded and Seventy four pounds eight shillings and ten pence in Bills of Credit of the old tenor the whole of which amounts to Six hundred and Thirty pounds, fifteen shillings and three pence old tenor, which remains in his hands Exclusive of his Salary to

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the third instant being Eighty three pounds Six Shillings and Eight pence old tenor, which is hereby also allowed.

The Town proceeded to take into Consideration the motion made at the opening of the meeting by John Fayerweather Esqr. that the Town would effectually repair the South Battery, and otherwise Better Fortify the Town than now it is, and after some Debate thereon, Voted that a Committee be chose to View the several Batterys and Fortifications in the Town and report the State and Circumstances they are in and also what they Judge necessary for the Town further to do, to put themselves in a better Posture of Defence, and also that the said Committee consider of the motion made by Samuel Adams Esqr. whether it be not necessary that another powder house be Erected in Town, of the motion made by the Honble. Col Wendell that Five hundred Ton of Timber may be purchased for the use of the Town, and the motion made by [**89.**] M^{r}. Isaac White that three or more Vessells be purchased in order to be Sunk in such places in the Channel as shall be thought best in Case the Town shou'd be Attacked by an Enemy, and report what they think proper to be done on said motions.——
Also Voted that.

John Fayerweather Esqr.
M^{r}. Isaac White
Col^{o}. John Hill
The Honble. Col^{o}. Wendell &
The Honble. Samuel Welles Esqr.

be the Committeee for the purposes aforsaid, and they are desired to make report hereon at the Adjournment of this meeting.

M^{r}. Hancock one of the Selectmen Informed the Town that he had received of the province Treasurer the Sum of Six hundred and Sixty Six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence bills of the last Tenor, being the Grant made by the General Court the thirtieth day of May A D 1744. for purchasing of Cannon & other Warlike Stores for the use of the north Battery and that he had also received of the Committee of War Twenty one hundred & Fifty pounds old tenor bills being for the Two hundred and fifteen Fire Arms press'd by the Government for the Service of the late Expedition against Cape Breton *against Cape Breton* so desiring the direction of the Town where he sho'd lodge the same being unwilling to Run the Risque thereof in his house Whereupon he was desired to keep it till further orders of the Town.

Messrs. Benjamin Church	Sworne	Constables.
Joseph Belknap	Pay	
John Bowden	Sworn	
Joshua Pickman jun^{r}. . . .	Sworn	
George Eustice	Sworne	

were chosen Constables for the year ensuing.

Tuesday three a Clock in the afternoon the Town met according to Adjournment.

Voted that the Town proceed to the Choice of Ten Firewards the Votes being Collected & Sorted it appeared that the following persons were Chose. Viz^{t}.

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[90.] Messrs. Isaac White
Robert Breck
John Carnes
John Scolley
Joseph Jackson Hatter
Col^{o}. W^{m}. Downe
Capt. Henry Berry
Col^{o}. Benj^{a}. Pollard Excusd
Col^{o}. John Hill
Capt. William Salter
} Firewards.

were chose Firewards for the year ensuing.

The Committee Appointed yesterday to prepare a Draft of a Petition to the Honble. House of Representatives relating to the Grievances this Town Labour under by reason of the proceedings of the Governour and Council in repeatedly Granting press Warrants &C^{a}. now made Report of a Draft they had prepar'd in the words following Viz^{t}.

The Committee, appointed to draw up a Petition to the Honourable House of Representatives relating to the Grievances by Impress Warrants &C^{a}. have attended that Service and Report the following Draft, Viz^{t}.

To the Honourable the House of Representatives.

Shew.

The Inhabitants of the Town of Boston in Town meeting legally Assembled.

That your Petitioners, labouring under great & insupportable Grievances by means of the late Repeated Warrants to impress Seamen for his majesty's Ships, as also the male behaviour of the Officers are Constrain'd to lay the same before your Honours, who are instructed to your Constituents with the Sacred Depositum of their invaluable Rights and priviledges, of which by the Constitution you are the natural Guardians, and with all Dutiful Respect your Petitioners would Say, They have chearfully complied with all the Injunctions of Government, altho their Taxes which are daily increasing have been [91.] A Burthen under which they are almost ready to Succomb, But this notwithstanding, as also the present melancholy Stagnation of Trade and Commerce which is like to be continued during the War, yet your Petitioners have lately been distress'd by no less than three several Warrants for Impressing Seamen which (altho we apprehend 'em to be illegal) have been executed in an oppressive manner, before unknown to Englishmen, and attended with Tragical Consequences. By which means the numbers of Seamen Impress'd for his Majestys Ships and those who have fled to the neighbouring Governments for Protection from Impresses, added to those who went in the Sea Service to Cape Breton amount to more than Three Thousand; whereupon the neighbouring Governments have not only had a sufficient number of Seamen to navigate their Trade with but also so large a Surpluss of men as to enable them to man within the province of New York & Colony of Rhode Island near Thirty sail of Privateers, exclusive of those fitted out from the other Governments, when the once Cherish'd now Depress'd, once Flourishing

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now sinking Town of Boston, have been so far from being able to man any privateers, that she has wanted men to man the merchant Vessells, some of whom have had their Cargo's much Damnified, by having them long Ship'd before they could get men to navigate their Vessells, and all these Grievances are greatly aggrivated, when it is considered that Boston is the metropolis of that province who has been the principal in the Reduction of Cape Breton, which added to her former Millitary Atchievements for Loyalty justly sets her at the head of his majestys provinces, and that those other Governments (New Hampshire and Connecticut Excepted) have bore no part of the Burthen of the War, nor had any hand in the Expedition, but have been reaping unknown advantages by our misfortunes in having seamen to Carry their Vessells to the best markets, while ours with their Cargos perishing on Board lay by the Walls, for want of navigators, But the Injury is still heightened by the Behaviour of the Officers, who with their Lawless Rabble, like ruffains entered the Houses of some of the Inhabitants in the night to their great Terror, and acted Tragical Scenes, which was closed in the inhumane murder of two brave men, who had been employed in the hotest Service during the Expedition and with their Fellows had Quitted themselves like men, This Tragical Scene seemed to have so little Effect upon the Sheriff of the County of Suffolk (who by his Office is the Grand Conservator of the peace) that when a Warrant was issued by the Honble. Samuel Danforth Esqr. & Thomas Hubbard Esqr. against the offenders which was by one or both of those Gentlemen delivered to him he delivered the same into the hands of Nathaniel Hasey then a Depty Sheriff, and the second named Criminal in said [92.] Warrant to be executed by him, instead of Executing it upon him, as by his Oath and Office he was Bound to do.

All these matters your Petitioners Apprehend proceed from the Warrants to Impress Seamen, which they conceive are Breaches of Magna Charta, The Charter of the province, and an act of Parliament Subjecting any Captain of a man of War to the Penalty of Twenty pounds Sterling Fine for every Seaman such Captain shall impress in the plantations, and they also Conjecture that under pretext of Executing those Warrants the faith of the Government plighted to those brave men, who engaged in the Expedition has been notoriously Violated.

Wherefore your Petitioners humbly Pray your Honours as tender Fathers, would take our most pitiable and most deplorable Circumstances into your wise Consideration, and Assert our Invaded Rights and priviledges by Remonstrating to the Governour and Council against such Warrants, as also against the unjustifiable Conduct of their officers.

The foregoing Draft is Submitted by,

JER. ALLEN
JOHN JONES
SAMUEL ADAMS

Boston March 11. 1745/6.

Which being Twice read over, after some Debate thereon.

It was Voted that the said Draft be Accepted and a fair copy of the same be prepared & signed by the Town Clerk, and that the

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Selectmen present the same to the Honble. House of Represent^ves^ now sitting as the Petition of the Town.

Messrs. John Ting . . . . Excus'd. } Constables.
Hezekiah Usher . . Sworne.
William Whitwell . . Excus'd

were Chose Constables for the year ensuing.

The Town proceeded to take into Consideration the Petition of M^r^. Samuel Gibson read at the opening of the Meeting praying for an Addition to his Sallary, and after some Debate thereon,

---

Voted that the Sum of Fifty pounds old tenor p annum be Added to M^r^. Gibsons Sallary to Commence from his last Quarter.

Messrs. Daniel Tuckerman, Sworne, Samuel Sellon Sworne, were chosen Constables for the year ensuing.

[93.] Voted that Messrs. William Torrey } Committee.
David Collson &
Robert Rand

be and hereby are appointed a Committee to View the Wooden Shops belonging to the Town on the north Side of Faneuil Hall Market consider what necessary Repairs are Wanting and Report what they think proper for the Town to do thereon at the Adjournment of this meeting.

Voted that this meeting be Adjourned to Monday the 24th. Instant 9 aClock in the Forenoon.

March 24. 1745. monday 9 aClock in the Forenoon, The Town mett according to Adjournment.

The Inhabitants entred upon the Consideration of some method for the better Regulation of Funerals and thereupon, Voted that the Selectmen be and hereby are desired to Consider what may be necessary to be further done in this Affair, and report hereon at the next meeting.

Col. Pollard who was chose a Fireward at the beginning of this meeting sent his Letter of Excuse which was Accepted and thereupon Voted that the Town proceed to Chuse another in his Room & the Votes were accordingly brought in & it Appeared that Capt. Joseph Russell was chosen.

The Inhabitants proceeded to Consider of some method to prevent the great Fraud that is frequently committed in the Sale of Hoops in Town, And Voted that a Committee hereof accordingly Voted that,

Messrs. Bryant Parrott } Committee.
Joshua Cheever Esqr.
M^r^. Thomas Lee

be the said Committee who are desired to Report hereon at the next meeting.

A Motion was made by M^r^. Middlecott Cooke & seconded that the Town would reconsider the motion of M^r^. Jeremiah Allen at the opening of this meeting the 10th. Instant and the Petition Consequent thereupon relating to preferring a Petition to the Honble. House of Representatives concerning the Grievances this Town Labour under by reason of [94.] The frequent Press Warrants

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Granted by the Governour and Council to Man His Majesty's Ships &C^a. —— and a large Debate was had thereon which continued till after one aClock, when it was moved and seconded by several that this meeting be adjourned to three aClock in the Afternoon, then to reassume the Consideration of M^r. Cooks motion which was Voted accordingly. —— Then Voted this Meeting be Adjourned to 3 aClock P.M.

Monday 3 aClock in the Afternoon the Town mett according to Adjournment.

Messrs.	Thomas Greenough	Pay
	Deacon John Eliot refuses to Serve his fine is Remit^d	
	Thomas Baxter	Sworne
	John Gardner Shopkeeper . .	Pay
	Daniel Marsh	Sworne
	John Flower	Sworne
	Jon^a. Cushing	Pay
	Powers Mariot	Pay
	Nathaniel Thayer	Sworne
	Phillip Audebert	Sworne
	Thomas Hill	Pay
	James Day	Sworne

were chose Clerks of the Market for the Year Ensuing.

M^r. Thomas Hartly a Sealer of Leather was chose a Sealer of Leather for the year ensuing.

The Town reassum'd the Consideration of the motion made by M^r. Cooke in the Forenoon and after a long Debate the following Question was put Viz^t. Whether the Town will now proceed to Act on the said motion of M^r. Cooke for Reconsidering the said motion of M^r. Jeremiah Allen and the Petition to the Honble House Consequent thereon, and it was Voted in the Affirmative, and thereupon the Inhabitants were directed to bring in written Votes, and those that were for reconsidering said Allens Motion and the said Petition to write Yea, and those that were against it to write Nay, and the Votes being brought in & Sorted it appeared that the number of Voters were 378 whereof 224 were Yeas and 154 Nays

Then it was Voted by a vast majority "That the said Petition [95.] and the motion whereon it was Grounded contains Expressions disrespectful and reflecting upon his Excellency the Governour, and the Council, and so far as it relates to the disrespectfulness the Town disavow the same.

Upon a motion made and seconded, It was Voted that the Thanks of the Town be given to the Honble James Allen Esqr. for his dispatch given to the Business of this meeting.

Then the meeting was dismissed.

At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly Qualified and lawfully Warned in Public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the Thirty first day of March A.D. 1746.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting . . . . . Read.

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The Inhabitants proceeded to the Choice of a Moderator (by a written Vote) and upon Collecting the Votes it appeared that the Honble. Edward Hutchinson Esqr. was unanimously chosen.

Voted, That Messrs. Robert Rand, William Torrey & David Colson } Committee.

be and hereby are appointed a Committee to View the Wooden Shops belonging to the Town on the north Side of Faneuil Hall Market, Consider what necessary Repairs are wanting and Report what they think proper for the Town to do thereon as soon as may be.

Voted that the Honble Jacob Wendell Esqr.
Samuel Welles Esqr.
John Fayerweather Esqr.
Col^{o}. John Hill
M^{r}. Isaac White &
Col^{o}. Wm Downe,

be and hereby are appointed a Committee to Wait upon his Excellency the Captain General to ask his Liberty to View the present Batterys in the Town and see what Stores & Repairs are wanting and also to Consider what they Judge necessary for the Town further to do to put themselves into a better Posture of Defence and Report hereon as soon as may be.

[96.] Voted That the Honble. James Allen Esqr., Samuel Welles Esqr. & M^{r}. Thomas Greene } Committee.

be and hereby are appointed a Committee to Audit the Accounts of the Committee appointed in June 1742. to Build Fortifications in this Town and Report hereon at the next General Town Meeting.

The Petition of James Allen Esqr. setting forth that he has an Interest in the Outwharves butting northward on the middle Gap leading into the Bason and not to be come at by Land which renders it incommodious for improvement, praying he may have Liberty to Remove the said Gap the Wedth of it Northward at his own Cost, was now read and after some Debate thereon, Voted that the Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to take the said Petition into Consideration and Report what they think proper for the Town to do thereon.

The Proposal of Gillam Phillips Esqr for making the Lane called pudding. Lane near the Town house more Strait than now it is by taking in part of his Land on the Westerly Side of his Lane which he is willing to give to the Town.

If in Consideration thereof the Town would Allow him so much of said Lane as shall be Agreed upon on the Easterly side thereof, Was now taken into Consideration, and thereupon —— Voted that the Selectmen be and they are hereby fully impowered to Straiten said Lane, and settle the same with said Phillips in such manner as they shall think best.

The Petition of M^{r}. John Staniford one of the Collectors of Taxes for this Town, setting forth that many People in his list have dyed beyond Sea, and notice thereof has been after the time was Elapsed for making Abatements, & many men have died at home

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so poor that nothing could be obtained Praying that the Assessors may be Impowered at the time of their making up the Taxes for the year 1745, to make such Abatements as in their Judgment they shall see meet. —— Was now read, and thereupon Voted that Samuel Welles Esqr. Joshua Cheever Esqr. M^r. Edward Bromfield James Allen Esq. and M^r. Jonathan Loring be a Committee to Consider of said Petition and Report what they think proper for the Town [97.] To do thereon, as soon as may be.

Voted that the Town take into Consideration the State & Circumstances of the Several Fortifications within the Town and also whether they will farther Fortify the same at four a Clock this Afternoon.

The Motion of the Overseers of the Poor that some proper house may be provided for distracted persons was taken into Consideration, and thereupon Voted that the said officers be and hereby are appointed a Comm^tee to enquire into the Circumstances of Bridewell house adjoyning to the Work house, and the Conveniency thereof for the Reception of Distracted persons and report hereon as soon as may be.

Voted that the motion of the Collectors of Taxes for a further Premium or Allowance as also the Choice of a Committee to Visit the Schools and a Committee to Audit the Accounts of the Treasurer and Officers be referr'd over to the General Town Meeting in may next.

Voted that nine pence on the Pound be and hereby is Allowed to be paid to such persons as shall be chosen to Collect the Taxes within the ensuing year on all such Sums as they shall Collect they paying unto the Town Treasurer one half part of the whole Sum they shall be obliged to pay him within Three months from the Time they shall receive the Tax Books from the Assessors, and the other half part in three months after and also paying to the Province and County Treasurers one half part of the whole Sums they shall be obliged respectively to pay them in Six months from the time they shall receive the said Books from the Assessors, and the other half part in Six months after and in Case either of the said Collectors shall fail paying the said Treasurers in the above manner, the Collector so failing shall not be entitled to the aforesaid Allowance of nine pence on the Pound for Collecting but wholly forfeit the same. —— Provided also that the said Collectors give Bond with sufficient Suretys to the Satisfaction of the Selectmen for the faithful Discharge of their Duty in said Office. ——

Then the Town proceeded to the Choice of Six Collectors accordingly and upon Collecting & Sorting the Votes it Appeared that.

Messrs. Capt John Goldthwait	Elias Dupee
Joseph White Esqr.	William Larrabee &
Capt. Benj^a Edwards	Capt. Andrew Cunningham.

was chosen Collectors for the year ensuing.

[98.] Then the Town Adjourn'd to 3 a Clock P.M.

Monday, 3 a Clock in the Afternoon, The Town mett according to Adjournment.

The Motion of several Inhabitants for disposing of Fox hill in

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the Common for the Interest of the Town was taken into Consideration, and thereupon, Voted, That the Selectmen be a Committee to View the same and Report what they think will be most for the Advantage of the Town to do with said Hill, ——

Voted that the Assessors be and hereby are allowed to sit upon the Abatements of Taxes until the last day of September next and no longer. ——

The Committee appointed to View the Wooden Shops on the North Side of Faneuil Hall market, now Reported, That they had Viewed the same and found the Foundation of several of the middle Shops next the Dock Rotten and given way, the Shops setled down about Nine Inches, and some of the Floors want Repairing and the Shingling to be mended, and that repairing the same would not Cost one hundred pounds old tenor both for work and Stuff, Whereupon it was Voted that the Selectmen be and hereby are desired to Repair the said Shops in the best and cheapest manner they can.

The Petition of John Osborne Esqr. and several other Inhabitants of this Town setting forth that the Pavement at the lower end of Milk Street from Horn alley to Col^{o}. Hatch's Gate is very much broken and out of Repair and great Number of Loaden Carts &C^{a}. do daily pass it praying the Selectmen may be impowered to cause said Pavement to be taken up & laid anew and that a sum of money may be granted for that purpose, and that some effectual method may be taken to Carry off the Water which in great Rains or Sudden Showers renders the way unpassable Occasioned by the Defect of the Common Sewer &c^{a}. Read. — and thereupon Voted that the Selectmen be and hereby are desired to View that part of said Street propos'd to be new paved Consider the Circumstances of the same & what the Town had best do there upon, as also of some method for Carrying off the Water that often renders said Way unpassable, & make a Computation of the whole Charge, thereof and Report hereon at the General Town meeting in may next

[**99.**] The Committee appointed in the forenoon to Wait upon his Excellency the Captain General to ask his Liberty to View the present Batteries in the Town and See what Stores & repairs are wanting, and also to Consider what they Judge necessary for the Town further to do to put themselves into a better Posture of Defence, now made their, Report which was read, and after some Debate thereon the following Question was put Viz^{t}. Whether the Town will now proceed to raise money for Putting themselves in a better Posture of Defence, and it was Voted in the Affirmative, and then the Report was read again, and the first Paragraph Viz^{t}. That the Eight Field Carriages in the Gunhouse on the Common should be increased to Twenty fit for Guns which will Carry four and Six pound Shot to be Transported from place to place as they shall be occasion, was accepted, and then the Second Paragraph was read, and the Town not approving of the whole thereof It was moved & Voted that the said Report be Returned to the same Committee who are desired to make such alterations and amendments therein as they shall think proper, and the said Committee are also desired to make an Estimate of the whole Cost & Expence

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of Repairing and Fortifying the Town, and Report hereon at the intended adjournment of this meeting, then, Voted that this meeting be Adjournmen Tuesday the 8th. of April next at 3 a Clock in the Afternoon. ——

Tuesday, April 8. 1746. Three a Clock in the Afternoon — The Town mett according to Adjournment.

The Town proceeded to take into Consideration some more effectual method to prevent Negro's keeping Hogs & after a Short Debate thereon Voted that a Committee be chosen to consider what will be best for the Town to do hereon, accordingly

Thomas Hubbard Esqr.
Mr. Edward Bromfield &
James Allen Esqr.

were chosen a Committee for that purpose, and they are desired to make Report hereon at the next General Town meeting.

Messrs. Ebenezer Holmes . .	Sworn	Clerks of the Market.
William Taylor . . .	Sworn	
Harrison Gray . . .	Pay	
William Cooper . . .	Sworn	
John Boylestone . .	Sworn	

were chose Clerks of the Market for the Year ensuing.

[100.] The Committee appointed at the opening of this meeting the 31st. of March last to wait upon his Excellency the Capt. General to ask his Liberty to View the present Batteries in Town and see what Stores and repairs are wanting and also to Consider what they Judge necessary for the Town further to do to put themselves into a better Posture of Defence Now Reported, That they had carefully Viewed and Sounded the Channel from the narrows up to the middle Ground a little Eastward of Castle William, and found that at this lower middle Ground, the Channel is Two hundred and forty feet wide of the Depth of Twenty four feet, that for Nine hundred and Sixty feet more it is from Eighteen to fifteen feet Deep the remainder being about Six hundred feet is twelve feet deep; and they are of opinion that it would be a great Security to the Town to sink Hulks across the Channel here on the Approach of Ships of War to Attack us that five will be Sufficient, two of about one hundred & fifty Tons & three of about one hundred Tons; and that they be got ready & fixed, ready to sink on the Shortest Warning and with Bridles to weigh them when the Danger is over, and that they be mored near the place, and that Buoys be fixed where they are to be sunk that the Channel may be stopt in a few hours time on the Approach of an Enemy. ——

They have also viewed the several parts of the Town more especially the South Battery & apprehend a Line of about Twenty Guns before the Sconce, extending about North from the upper or Western End of Colo. Wendells Wharffe two hundred and Sixty four feet thirteen feet high and Thirty feet Wide with a proper Brest work and Platform would be a Considerable Security, which by Consultation with masons and carpenters they find may be made, either wholly of Square Timber with Boxes filled with Ballast or by a front Wall of about Ten feet thick and Eleven feet high, Strong Built, with a good face the Room behind to be filled with

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Timber and Stone or with dirt as may be found Cheapest or most Expeditious.

The Committee find thirteen Guns wanting in the North Battery and many necessary Stores difficient both there and at the South Battery.

They apprehend a Battery of Eight Guns on the End of the long Wharff and another of Four on the End of Clarks Wharffe would be very necessary in a time of Danger,

That they had carefully considered the Cost of the most material of the above mentioned Particulars, and are of the opinion that the [**101.**] Hulks if new with the Charge of Sinking them, Cordage anchors Labour &C^a^. will amount to Five Thousand pounds new Tenor, that the Wharff at the South Battery if of Stone in the Front as proposed will amount to fifteen hundred pounds, if of Woed and Ballast Twelve hundred and fifty pounds, both new tenor, Gun Carriages £7,, 10/ each.

They ar a further of opinion that in some proper way, the Town endeavour that the province should be at the above mentioned Charge or at least lend the money to be paid in future years by the Town without Interest ——— And the same being twice read over and a considerable Debate had thereon, It was Moved and Voted that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby is given unto the said Committee for the great pains they have taken in this affair. — And then it was,

Voted that the Honble. Jacob Wendell and Samuel Welles Esq^rs^. John Fayerweather Esqr. Col^o^. John Hill, Col^o^. William Downe and M^r^. Isaac White be a Committee to wait on his Excellency the Captain General and Represent to him that in pursuance of the Leave he was pleased to Grant to View and Consider what might be further needful for the Security of the Town in a time of Danger, they have Viewed the Channel near the Castle and humbly apprehend that it may be Stopped by Hulks sunk across it so as to Render it Impracticable for any Ships of War to Approach so near the Town as to annoy it, and the Committee are directed humbly to request his Excellency if in his Wisdom he thinks well of the proposal to use his Influence that this may be Effected at the province Charge or that his Excellency would take such other methods as in his paternal Care and Goodness he may Judge best for the Towns Security.

Voted that all matters and Things that remain unfinished be Referred over to the next General Town meeting to be then acted upon. ——

Then the Meeting was Dismiss'd.

[**102.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly Qualified and lawfully Warned in Public Town meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the fourteenth day of May. A.D. 1746.

Prayer was made by the Rev^d^. M^r^. Mather Byles.

The Precept and Warrant for calling the meeting. Read.

Sundry Laws, Read. ——

Samuel Adams Esqr. One of the Selectmen in their Name propos'd to the Inhabitants Assembled to proceed to the Choice of a

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person or persons to Serve for and Represent in a great and General Court or Assembly to be held at Boston upon Wednesday the Twenty eighth day of May instant and in order thereto to consider and Ascertain the Number of Gentlemen to be Elected, accordingly Voted to proceed to the Choice of Four Representatives, and it was declared that the Poll be Closed at twelve a Clock.

The Votes being Collected the Number of Votes were found to be 443, and upon Sorting the Votes it Appeared that the following Gentlemen were chosen Viz^{t}.

	No. of Votes.
Samuel Welles Esqr.	403.
Thos. Hutchinson Esqr.	249.
Andrew Oliver Esqr.	413.
Thomas Hubbard Esqr.	267.

The Election of Representatives being over and the same being Declared by the Selectmen.

The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for a Moderator & upon Sorting the same it appeared that the Honble Edward Hutchinson Esqr was chosen by a great Majority.

Then the Meeting was Adjourned to three aClock in the Afternoon, ——

Wednesday 3 a Clock in the Afternoon, the Town mett,

The Petition of M^{r}. John Lovell master of the South Grammar [**103.**] School praying for an Addition to his Salary for reasons mentioned &C^{a} was Read and after some Debate a Question was put, Whether the Town will now make any Addition to his Salary, and it was Voted in the Affirmative, —— Then Voted that an addition of Fifty pounds old tenor p Annum be added to his Salary to Commence from his last Quarter, and the Selectmen are desired to make Drafts on the Treasury from time to time accordingly.

The Report of the Selectmen on the Visitation of the Publick Schools Read and is as follows Viz^{t}.

To the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of Boston in Town Meeting Assembled May 14. 1746.

Pursuant to a Vote of the Town of Boston at their Annual Meeting the third day of May A. D. 1745. desiring the Selectmen to Visit the Several Publick Schools in the Town and desire such Gentlemen to Accompany them therein as they should think proper and to Report thereon,

We the Subscribers accordingly Attended that Service on Tuesday the Twenty fifth day of June last, Accompanied by the following Gentlemen Viz^{t}.

The Hon John Osborne Esqr.
The Hon John Jeffries Esqr.
The Hon Jacob Wendell Esqr.
The Hon Thomas Berry Esqr.
The Hon Eliak^{m} Hutchinson Esqr.
Thomas Hubbard Esqr.
Daniel Henchman Esqr.
The Gentlemen the Representatives of the Town of Boston,
The Rev^{d}. D^{r}. Joseph Sewall
The Rev D^{r}. Charles Chauncey
The Rev^{d}. M^{r}. William Welsteed

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The Rev. Mr. William Hooper
The Rev. Mr. Samuel Mather

and found the South Grammar School wherein were one hundred & Twenty four Scholars all in very good order, the South writing School in the Common, consisting of one hundred and Seventy one Scholars in like good order, the Writing School in Queen Street having Sixty eight Scholars in good order, the North Grammar School of Forty [**104.**] Scholars in good order, and the North writing School wherein were Two hundred and Fifty nine Scholars in very good order, ——

JONAS CLARKE
THOMAS HANCOCK
JOHN STEEL
WILLIAM SALTER
HENRY ATKINS
} Selectmen

Voted that this Report be Accepted, and that the Gentlemen the Selectmen be desired to Visit the Publick Schools the Year ensuing and that they desire such Gentlemen to Accompany them therein as they shall think Convenient, and that they Report thereon, ——

The Town proceeded to take into Consideration the Article in the Warrant of a Desire of a number of the Inhabitants that Faneuil Hall market may be shutt up & Appropriated to some other use as shall be most for the Interest of the Town and after some Debate thereon, It was Voted that the said article be Dismiss'd, ——

The Town proceeded to take into Consideration the Article in the Warrant, That the head of the Dock may be filled up and a street laid out from Union-street to Faneuil Hall Market and after some Debate thereon, Voted that the same be Dismissed.

The Committee appointed the 31st. of March last to Consider of the Petition of Mr. John Staniford one of the Collectors of Taxes Praying that Sundry Abatements may be made of Taxes committed to him to Collect &Ca. for reasons mentioned, Now Reported that they find the following persons Assessed in his List these Sums Vizt.

Joseph Morse	£7,,	10.	9
Francis Grimès	1.	11.	5
Robert Black	1.	—	9
Henry Graham	2.	. . .	9
Richard Walker 1 Tax	1.	14.	. .
Edward Eayres	1.	17.	4.
Charles Mullins	1.	14.	0.
Benja. Kenny	1.	19.	. .
Ephrm. Bosworth	1.	10.	
[**105.**] George Baith	2.	9.	6.
Gideon Ball	1.	10.	. .
Samuel Ellis	4.	10.	. .
	£31,,	6,,	5.
John Pain	1.	16.	. .
Gideon Ball	1.	10.	. .
	£34,,	12,,	5.

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The Committee appointed as aforesaid do further report that they are humbly of opinion that the several Rates above written be abated by the Town, amounting in the whole to Thirty four pounds twelve shillings and five pence old tenor; The persons Taxed having been almost universally at Sea before the Rates came out and never Return'd,

All which is Submitted by,

SAMUEL WELLES
EDWARD BROMFIELD
JOSHUA CHEEVER
JAMES ALLEN.

Voted that the said Report be Accepted and that the Selectmen give a Draft on the Treasurer to Mr. John Staniford for Thirty three pounds one shillings and 9d old tenor being for the Taxes of several persons mentioned in said Report. The Tax of Mr. Rouse not being Abated him being. £1.10.8. ——

The Committee appointed the 31st. of March last to Audit the Accounts of the Committee that was appointed in June 1742 to Build Fortifications &Ca. now made Report in the words following,

Boston May 12th. 1746.

The Committee appointed to Audit the Accounts of the Committee appointed in June 1742 to Build Fortifications &Ca within this Town have Attended that Service, and find the accounts right cast and well Vouch'd, The Ballance due to the Town Seventy one pounds Six shillings old tenor, Outstanding as also Sundry Bills not paid, which is humbly Submitted, ——

JAMES ALLEN
SAMUEL WELLES
THO. GREENE

which was Read and Accepted ——

The Town proceeded to raise a Committee to lay out the sum of Six hundred and Sixty six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence granted by the General Court for Compleating the North Battery and purchasing Stores &Ca. and after some Debate thereon Voted that the Sum of Six hundred and [106.] Sixty six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence now in Mr. Hancocks hands be put into the Town Treasury, and that the Honble John Jeffries Esqr. Capt. Alexander Forsyth, Jonas Clarke Esqr. Mr. Thomas Hancock, Mr. Middlecott Cooke and Capt. John Steel the Committee appointed in June 1742 for Erecting Fortifications in this Town lay out the same according to the said Grant of the General Court, they to be accountable for their doings herein, ——

Voted that the Honble Jacob Wendell & Samuel Welles Esqrs. Col John Hill Colo. William Downe John Fayerweather Esqr. and Mr. Isaac White be a Committee to get the Twelve Gun Carriages made and finished that were Voted the last meeting.

Voted that the Honble. Samuel Welles Esqr. Mr. Jeremiah Allen Mr. Thomas Paine Samuel Adams Esqr. William Tyler Esqr. and Thomas Hutchinson Esqr. be and hereby are Appointed a Committee to draw up a Memorial or Petition to the Great and Gen-

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eral Court, that this Town may be Relieved as to their Proportion of the publick Taxes, and the said Committee are desired therein to Represent (in the most full and Particular manner) the deplorable Circumstances of the Town and the many Difficulties we labour under and lay the same before the Town at the Adjournment of this meeting.

The Selectmen appointed the 31st. day of march last as a Committee to Consider of the Petition of John Osborne Esqr. and others relating to the Pavement at the lower end of milk street &ca. as set forth in said Petition now made Report as follows Vizt. That they had View'd that part of milk Street propos'd by said Petition to be now Paved and Considered the Circumstances of the same and Reported that if the Pavement be taken up from Horn Alley to the lower end of Col. Hatch's Land it will Cost little more than to mend it as it now lyes provided the Abutters will do their part or proportion of the same they further Reported that the Common Sewer that Conveys the water from the Streets &ca. above into the Sea be cleans'd & kept open, which was Read & thereupon Voted that the Sum of One hundred and Twenty five pounds old tenor Bills be Allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury towards New paving the said Street from [107.] Horn Alley to the lower end of Colo. Hatch's Land, provided that the Abutters pay the remaining part of the Charge, and that the same when paved shall be under the Direction and to the Satisfaction of the Selectmen.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourned to Fryday the 23d. inst. 10 a Clock. A.M.

Friday the 23d. of May 1746. The Town met according to Adjournment at ten a Clock in the forenoon.

Voted that Messrs. Thomas Green
John Colson &
Capt. Wm. Salter be and hereby are appointed a Committee to Consider of some effectual method to prevent the pernicious practice of forestalling the market and Report hereon.

The Committee appointed the 8th. of April last to take into Consideration some more effectual method to prevent negro's keeping hogs now made Report of the Draft of a By Law they had prepared for that purpose in the words following Vizt.

At a meeting of the Freeholdors and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and lawfully warned in Public Town meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the fourteenth day of may A.D. 1746. and from thence continued by Adjournment until Fryday the 23 of said month.

Whereas great Damage arises to the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston by negro's and Indians keeping Hogs, not only by Occasioning very great Wast in the several Familys they respectively belong to, but as it Exposes them to great Temptations to Steal and purloin from their several Masters, provisions and other of their Substance and especially as it Occasions great Loss of time, and gives them an opportunity of Meeting and conferring together, whereby great Injuries have been done to the Inhabitants of said town.

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For the Prevention of so great an Evil

Ordered that no Indian negro or molatto shall be permitted to [108.] Keep any Hog or Swine whatever within the Town of Boston either with or without the privity or Consent of his said Master or Mistress, under the Penalty of Twenty Shillings to be paid by the Master or Mistress of any Indian, negro or molatto so offending for the use of the poor of said Town, upon due conviction of any such Offence before any one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of Suffolk.

And if any person shall hire or let to hire to any Indian Negro or Molatto, any Sty or Penn, or peice of Ground whereon to Erect the same, or that shall suffer any Indian Negro or Molatto to keep any Swine on any of their Ground. Ordered that every person so Offending on due Conviction thereof as aforesaid shall also forfeit and pay the sum of twenty shillings for the use aforesaid. ——

Which being read three several times, Voted that the same be Accepted, and that the Selectmen be desired to present it to the next Court of General Sessions of the peace for their Approbation.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourned to Fryday the 30th. Instant three a Clock in the Afternoon.

Fryday the 30th. of May, the Town met according to Adjournment. ——

Upon a Motion made and Seconded, It was Voted, That the Raising of Money and all the other matters and things mentioned in the Warrant for calling this Meeting (now remaining unfinished) be refered over to the next General Town Meeting to be then Considered of and Acted upon.

Then the Meeting was Dismissed.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and lawfully warned in Public Town Meeting Assembled in Fanuel Hall on Tuesday the third day of June A.D. 1746.

Prayer being made by the Revd. Mr. Samuel Checkley.

[109.] Sundry Laws —— Read.

A Precept under the hand and seal of the Honble. Thomas Hutchinson Esqr. Speaker of the Honble. House of Representatives directed to the Selectmen requiring them to Assemble the Freeholders and other Inhabitants, to make choice of and Depute (if they see cause) a person to serve for and Represent them in the Great and General Court or Assembly, now Convened held and kept for His Majestys Service at the Court house in Boston, in the Room of the Honble. Andrew Oliver Esqr. who is Chosen into His Majestys Council. —— Together with the Warrant for calling the Meeting ——Read.

The Question was put Vizt. Whether the Town would proceed to Choose a person to serve for and Represent them in the Great and General Court or Assembly now Convened in the Room of Mr. Oliver.

Voted in the Affirmative.

And the Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for one Repre-

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sentative accordingly being in Number 293 but upon Sorting em it Appeared there was no choice then the Selectmen directed the Inhabitants to withdraw & bring in their Votes again which they accordingly did to the number of 292 upon sorting 'em it appeared again that there was no choice, and it being One a Clock, it was propos'd that the Meeting be Adjourn'd to 3 a Clock in the Afternoon then to proceed to the Choice of a Representative, which was accordingly Voted in the Affirmative. ——

Three a Clock in the afternoon, The Town met according to Adjournment.

And the Selectmen directed the Inhabitants to bring in their Votes for a Representative which they accordingly did to the Number of 404 and upon Sorting the same it Appeared that Samuel Adams Esqr. was Chosen having 238 Votes. ——

The Election of a Representative being ended, the Selectmen Declared the same, and the Town proceeded to the Choice of a [**110.**] Moderator —— and the Honble. Edward Hutchinson Esqr. was Chosen.

The Honble Samuel Welles Esqr. from the Committee appointed the 14th. of may last to draw up a Memorial or Petition to the Great & General Court or Assembly, that this Town may be relieved as to their proportion of the Publick Taxes now Reported and Presented a draft they had prepared in the words following Viz^{t}.

Province of the Massachusetts Bay } To his Excellency William Shirley Esqr. Captain General and Governour in Chief the Honourable the Council and House of Representatives in General Court Assembled May 28th. 1746.

The Petition of the Town of Boston in the Province aforesaid. ———

Humbly Sheweth,

That your Petitioners Apprehend what they are obliged to pay of the province Tax is very much beyond their proportion; by this they would by no means suggest any the least injustice or partiality in this high and Honourable Court, but humbly conceive it arises from the want of a proper Representation and knowledge of the particular Circumstances of this Town which the said Town of Boston now beg leave humbly to lay before your Excellency and Honours. ——

It is very obvious that it cannot be the Share or the quantity of the Land of the Province, which the Town of Boston contains that Subjects them to this large proportion for their Land is but a Pittance scarce one third so much as the least Town in the Province, but it must be some adventitious and peculiar Advantage they have from their Navigation, Commerce Manufactures Numbers or Wealth [**111.**] Of the People Inhabiting here; and if it shall appear that in all these things there is a great alteration to the Disadvantage of the Town we doubt not but agreeable to your Excellencys and Honours known Justice and goodness you will alter their proportion of the publick Charges.

As to our Navigation, the French War brought the Kings Ships

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here to man, which raised the Sailors wages to such an Extravagant height and has totally banisht so many from us, that very often our Ships have been kept so long in port that their Cargo have been almost or quite Ruined.

Our Trade & Commerce has consequently gone to other Maritime places in this province where it is very well. known foreign Commerce and Navigation are greatly increased they being at more Liberty to sail and Return as their Interest requires then we are and for that very reason able to get hands and carry on their Affairs much Cheaper and to far greater profit, and this has again enabled them to take from us the Supplys for this Fishery here, and also to take to themselves the Benefit of carrying the fish to foreign Ports. ——— The same may be said as to Shipbuilding the ancient and almost the only Manufacture the Town of Boston ever had, diverse places in the province (more especially the Town of Newbury) are under Advantages beyond Boston and have taken from the Town a large proportion of this Business. ——

And for some years past there has been a new method of Supplying the Town of Boston with Flesh of every kind, this heretofore was principally by Butchers who dwelt in this Town & killed almost all the meat this people had both large and small but especially all large meat almost without a Single Exception this naturally Supplied & employed Tanners Curriers and a large number of Shoemakers and a great many others dependents and Appendages to these Occupations, whereas our Butchers who used to be Thirty in number are now Reduced to four or five and but one of them that has Business of any Consequence and he so discouraged as to be about removing into the Country; Sundry of our tanyards are thrown up and others dwindled to almost nothing, Our Curriers are gone out of Town or live Idly for want of Business; Our Shoemakers are without Leather & Employ Boston being Supplied by Shoemakers living out of Town where Leather is to be had.

And all those Butchers, Tanners, Shoemakers with their [112.] Attendants, now living in the Towns round about Boston, formerly dwelt in Town and supplied the Country as well as Town almost universally with Leather and considerably with Shoes, But now our Tanners Curriers & Shoemakers cannot Supply the Town alone with either.

These things the said Town of Boston dont mention as grievances in themselves, for it as well or better for the Individuals living in Boston to buy their meat of a Roxbury Butcher as of a Boston Butcher if as cheap or cheaper, But then if the Town be considered as an aggregate Body and a great Number of the parts which constitute this Body, be taken away and the same weight of Taxes continued as before, the Remainder must Suffer more in such Case then they did when the whole were together.

This being so Apparent from the Reason & nature of Things and impressed and confirmed by a very Sensible and powerfull Argument the unavoidable increase of the Taxes of the Remaining Inhabitants has reduced & driven many others both of the Superiour and middling Sort to Remove into some of the neighbouring

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Towns where they could Exercise their Faculties and many of them in this Town too every Day, and only Sleep a few Rods or miles out of the Town o night and pay but a fifth or tenth part of the Taxes they were Obliged to pay as their proportion while they lived in Boston, and by these means the Town is Reduced in the Number of their Rateable Inhabitants from near 3400 to about 2600 in a very few years time, and in this Loss some men of large Estates are gone, who professedly left the Town because they thought Boston was Assessed a larger proportion in the province Tax then the neighbouring Towns to which they Removed, This which gives our Brethren removing from us ease, leaves the Burthen most necessarily heavier on the Remainder (if the Towns proportion continue the same) and their deliverance & Joy become our greater Thraldom & Sorrow.

This has also Multiplied our poor to such a great number that in a very few years the Charges for them only are risen from little more than One Thousand to above five Thousand We might add that the Distilling Business which for Twenty or Thirty years past has employed a considerable Number [**113.**] Of People, is now under great Discouragements there not being molasses to be had to employ them half their time and what we have is Chiefly Imported by merchants and Traders living in Salem Charlestown Newbury Marblehead Plymouth Bristol and other Maritime places, where their Navigation is free and Cheaper at most, if not at all which places especially at Charlestown the Distilling Business is carried on largely and Distilling is also carried on at Watertown Medford and Nantucket from the last of which places a great Trade is managed abroad by this means to Newfoundland and elsewhere; all this Business not many years past was carried on at Boston, and was doubtless one great consideration by which their share of the publick Charges was Regulated. That there are great Numbers of Dwelling houses Warehouses and other Buildings the Annual Rents of which would amount to several Thousand of Pounds empty & unoccupied.

And that the Losses of this Town by Sea for the last year only amount to about £200,000 old tenor.

Wherefore your humble Petitioners pray that as our Number Navigation Commerce, Manufactures and every thing else, for which we can be Taxed, are very much decreased, our Province Tax may be lessened in proportion, or that such other Relief may be granted as to your Excellency and Honours, in your great Wisdom and Equity shall seem meet. ——

And your Petitioners (as in Duty Bound) shall ever pray &C^a^.

The aforegoing Draft is Submitted in the name and by order of the Committee. — Samuel Welles in behalf of the Committee.

Which said Draft was three times Read over and thereupon

Voted that the same be Accepted and that the Town Clerk be and hereby is directed immediately to prepare a fair Copy thereof and sign it on behalf of the Town, and the Selectmen are desired to present it to the General Court as the Petition of the Town accordingly.

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Voted that a Committee be raised to endeavor to obtain a Subscription for building or purchasing a House proper the Reception of Distracted persons, & Voted, that

Mr. John Jones
Mr. Joseph Sherburne &
Mr. John Staniford.

be the said Committee. ——

[114.] Voted A Grant of Sixteen Thousand pounds old tenor Bills to be Rais'd by a Tax on Polls and Estates within the Town of Boston, for Relief of the Poor and defreying other necessary Charges arising within and for said Town the year ensuing. ——

Voted that the Sum of Two hundred and fifty pounds old tenor Bills be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury to the Honble. Joseph Wadsworth Esqr. for his Salary as Town Treasurer the year past.

Voted that the Sum of One hundred pounds old Tenor be allowed & paid out of the Town Treasury to the Honble Joseph Wadsworth Esqr. in full for his Extraordinary Services in his Office as Town Treasurer to this Day (excepting the Services he has done in his Office relating to the Batterys in the Town).

Voted that the Sum of Eighty pounds old tenor Bills be allowed & paid out of the Town Treasury unto Mr. John Staniford in full for his Services as Clerk of Faneuil Hall Market for the year 1745.

Voted that the Selectmen be and hereby are directed to fill up the Wharffe at the South Battery, and Build a Glacis there and take what Dirt they shall want for doing the same from the Top of Forthill.

Mr. Nathaniel Wardells Lease in the Engine Erected at the Southend for the weighing of Hay being Expired the Town entred upon the Consideration of said Engine and after some Debate, Voted that the further Leasing of said Engine or Erecting of another Engine in the Town for the weighing of Hay be and hereby is referr'd to the Selectmen who are fully impowered to Act and do in this Affair whatever they shall apprehend to be most for the Advantage and Interest of the Town.

The Selectmen appointed a Committee the Thirty first of march last on the Petition of James Allen Esqr. praying for Liberty to Remove his Gap at the Outwharves the [115.] Wedth thereof Northward at his own Cost and Charge, now Report that they had Viewed the premisses therein mentioned & apprehended the granting the prayer of the Petition Will be attended with many Inconveniences & be a considerable Disservice to the Town which was read and accepted, and Voted that the said Petition be Dismissed.

The Selectmen appointed a Committee the 31st of march last to consider of a motion then made by several of the Inhabitants for disposing of Fox Hill in the Common for the Interest of the Town Now Report that they had Viewed said Hill and considered the Circumstances of the same & apprehend that at present it will not yield any thing to the advantage of the Town to Dispose of it, but that it remain as it now is, which being Read, Voted that the said Report be Accepted.

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The following Gentlemen were Chosen a Committee for Auditing the Town Treasurers Accounts for the Year ensuing Viz^{t}.

John Wheelwright Esqr.
M^{r}. Thomas Greene
Joshua Winslow Esqr.
M^{r}. Ebenezer Holmes &
M^{r}. Thomas Oxnard,

And they are desired to make Report as usual, and the said Committee are desired to Audit the Accounts of the Overseers of the Poor respecting the Almshouse and the Workhouse, and to Attend doing the same at the usual place of said Overseers meeting & make Report hereon as Usual.

Voted that all matters and things whatsoever that were to have been considered of at this meeting, and now Remain unfinished be and hereby is referred over to the next General Town Meeting to be then Acted upon.

Voted that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby is given to the Honble Edward Hutchinson Esqr the Moderator of this Meeting for Dispatching the Business thereof.

Then the Meeting be Dismissed.

[116.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and lawfully warned in Public Town Meeting assembled in Faneuil Hall on Monday the twenty second day of Septem^{r}. A.D. 1746. ——

Prayer being made by the Rev^{d}. D^{r}. Joseph Sewall.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting was Read.

The Inhabitants proceeded to the Choice of a Moderator (by a handy Vote) and the Honble. Samuel Welles Esqr. being Nominated was Accordingly Chosen.

The Town proceeded to take into Consideration the Affairs mentioned in the Warrant Viz^{t}. To Consult what may be done for the Defence and Safety of the Town against an Enemy either by Repairing the present Fortifications, or Erecting any others, or doing whatever else may be thought necessary and after a long Debate thereon, It was Voted that

The Honble. Edward Hutchinson
Ezekiel Lewis
James Allen &
John Jeffries Esq^{rs}.
Col. William Downe
John Fayerweather
Daniel Henchman &
Thomas Hubbard Esq^{rs}. &
M^{r}. Thomas Green

Be a Committee to wait upon His Excellency the Governour praying that inasmuch as the Town of Boston Petition'd the Great & General Court to provide Hulks at the Province Charge to Stop the Channel on the Approach of an Enemy which Petition the House of Representatives so far favour'd as to Appoint a Committee to make an Estimate of the Cost thereof but said Committee have not yet Reported and the General Court not now Sitting,

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Wherefore the Town humbly [117.] Pray that his Excellency the Governour and the Honble. the Council in the imminent Danger to which his Majestys good Subjects are now Exposed, & would please to provide Hulks to be Sunk as proposed at the province Charge and also would provide Fireships if they shall Judge them needfull.

Also Voted that the Honble Jacob Wendell, James Bowdoin & Samuel Welles Esq^rs^., John Fayerweather & William Downe Esq^rs^., Capt. John Steel and M^r^. Isaac White } Committee. be and hereby are appointed a Committee to Consider what is necessary for the Town immediately to do for their better Security and Defence against an Enemy besides Sinking of Hulks and providing Fire Ships and Report hereon as soon as may be, ——

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourned to 3 o Clock in the Afternoon. ——

Monday 3 o Clock in the Afternoon The Town mett according to Adjournment. ——

Whereas it is suggested that there are several persons Roman Catholicks that now dwell and reside in this Town and it may be very Dangerous to permit such persons to Reside here in Case we should be attack'd by an Enemy, Therefore Voted that M^r^. Jeremiah Allen M^r^. Nathaniel Gardner and M^r^. Joseph Bradford be and hereby are appointed a Committee to take Care and prevent any Danger the Town may be in from Roman Catholick residing here by making Strict Search and enquiry after all such and pursue such Methods relating to em as the Law directs.

The Committee appointed in the forenoon to Consider what is immediately necessary for the Town to do for its further Security & Defence now Reported That they Apprehended the Ditch or mote be Cleared and Guns be provided for the [118.] Ports in the Breast Work on the neck, that there be a platform made to Traverse the Guns on.

That four Guns be planted on the End of M^r^. Welles's Wharfe, Four guns on M^r^. Hills Wharfe, Five on M^r^. Marions Wharffe, Four Guns on Messrs. Jones and Griffins Wharffe, Four on M^r^. Hubbards Wharffe, Four on the End & two on the South Side of Col^o^. Wendells Wharffe, Eight on the Long Wharffe, four on Clarks Wharffe and four on Capt. Cheevers Wharffe, & Eight Guns more for the North Battery, the Breast Works to be made with timber and plank on each Side filled up with Sods or Dirt, or with hogsheads filled with Dirt as the Circumstances of the place may require.

That they had also carefully observed what provision there is of Cannon, and find a great quantity and a large number of Carriages and humbly proposed that all Utensels & everything necessary be forthwith provided for them.

Which Report was Read & Accepted and thereupon Voted that the said Committee Viz^t^. The Honble. Jacob Wendell Esqr. Samuel Welles Esqr. and James Bowdoin Esqr. John Fayerweather Esqr.

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Col. William Downe Capt. John Steel and Mr. Issac White wait upon His Excellency the Captain General for his Leave to do the several Things mentioned in said Report, and if they Obtain it, that then the said Committee and Joshua Cheever Esqr. Mr. John Ruddock Mr. Samuel Hunt Capt. Jeffry Bedgood Mr. Thomas Lee Mr. Shem Drown Capt. John Wakefield and Majr. Daniel Henchman be and hereby are Impowered as a Committee to do and Effect the same.

Voted that the Sum of Six Thousand Pounds bills of the old tenor be rais'd by a Tax upon the Polls and Estates within the Town of Boston for defreying the extraordinary Services of the Current year,

Whereas the Town Apprehending it to be much for their Safety & Security in this time of War with the French Nation, that the several persons belonging to that Nation who are daily passing the Streets of the Town should be Confin'd, desired the [119.] Selectmen to make application to two of His Majestys Justices of the peace (Quorum unus) for a warrant to Apprehend and Commit them to Prison pursuant to a Law of this province, which they accordingly did & the Constables by Wartue of said Warrant took about One hundred French persons & carryed 'em to His Majesty Goal in Boston, but Benjamin Pollard Esqr. High Sheriff of this County would not receive 'em nor suffer 'em to Remain there but has permitted 'em to go at large again and by this extraordinary Behaviour and Conduct of the said Sheriff the Inhabitants Jude themselves to be in great Danger of their Lives and Estates, more especially since it has been proved that some of these French persons have declared that they would set this Town on fire in several parts as soon as it shall be Invaded by an Enemy upon a motion Therefore made and Seconded, It was unamiously Voted that the Gentlemen the Representatives of this Town be & hereby are desired at the next Session of the General Court to make a motion in the Honble. House of Representatives that they would lay before His Excellency the Governour and the Honble. the Council the said Extraordinary behaviour and Conduct of the said Sheriff, and desired that such Methods may be taken with the said Sheriff as that the Town may be preserved and he not have it in his power to distress this, or any other Town in like Circumstances for the future that they'l be pleased to Grant such other Relief as may be necessary.

Upon a Motion made and Seconded, Voted that the Honble Samuel Welles, James Allen & Ezekiel Lewis Esqrs. Mr. Edward Bromfield and Mr. Hugh Vans the Selectmen of the Town Hugh Hall Esqr. Thomas Hubbard Esqr. & John Fayerweather Esqr. be and hereby are appointed a Committee to wait upon his Excellency the Governour, and the Honble. the Council to Inform them that the Town apprehending great Danger arising to em by such a number of persons Subjects to the French King, being allowed to pass and Repass the Streets as they now do, desired the Selectmen to Apply to two of His Majestys Justices of the peace (Quorum Unus) to Grant a Warrant to Apprehend & Secure 'em in prison pursuant to a law of this province, which the Selectmen accordingly did,

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and the Constables of the Town by Virtue thereof apprehended about one hundred French Persons & Carried 'em to his Majestys Goal in Boston, but the High Sheriff of this County treated the said Warrant in a very Contemptious manner & [120.] Would not receive the said persons therein mentioned, nor suffer 'em to Remain there and so they again go at large, which gives great uneasiness to the Inhabitants, praying his Excellency and the Honble. the Council will give such orders relating to the said French Prisoners as shall be most for the Safety & Security of the Town, and also give such Orders to the said Sheriff as may preserve the Town and those that Act for them from such Rude and Ill mannerly treatment from him for the future.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourned to Tomorrow Morning five a Clock in the Afternoon.

Tuesday Septem^r^. 23^d^. The Town met according to adjournment, & Voted that this Meeting be immediately Adjourned to Thursday next the 25 Inst. at 5 o Clock in the Afternoon.

Thursday Septem^r^. 25th. The Town mett according to Adjournment.

The Committee appointed the 22^d^. Instant to wait upon His Excellency the Governour and the Honble. the Council with a Copy of the Vote and desire of the Town relating to the Behaviour of the High Sheriff in Refusing to Receive the French Prisoners into Goal now Reported that they had so done, and that his Excellency and the Council desire the Town would draw up in Writing the Particular Matters they have to Alledge against the said Sheriff Pollard relating to said Affair, Whereupon It was Moved and Voted that Samuel Welles Abiel Walley & Samuel Adams Esq^rs^. be a Committee for that purpose, and the Constables of the Town who Served the Warrants are desired to Attend the said Committee & give them all the Information they can said Committee to Report at the Adjournment.

The Committee appointed the 22^d^. instant to take Care and prevent any Danger the Town may be in by Roman Catholicks residing here, Reported that they had found the Laws now in force relating to such persons to be insufficient [121.] To Enable them to Effect the same and therefore could do nothing hereon altho they suspected a considerable number of Roman Catholicks to be now in Town, —— Whereupon it was moved & Voted that the Represeetatives of this Town be and hereby are desired to Endeavour at the next Session of the General Court to get a Law pass'd that shall be effectual to Secure the Town from any Danger they may be in, by Roman Catholicks Dwelling here,

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourned to Saturday 11 o Clock A.M.

Saturday Sept. 27th. 1746. The Town met according to Adjournment.

The Committee appointed the 25th. instant to draw up a Memorial to his Excellency the Governour and the Honble. the Council

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relating to the behaviour and Conduct of the High Sheriff of this County in refusing to receive Sundry french Persons into His Majestys Goal in Boston sent thither the 22d. instant by Warrant from two of His Majestys Justices of the Peace now make Report of a Draft they had prepared in the words following Vizt.

To His Excellency William Shirley Esqr. Governour in Chief and the Honble. His Majestys Council.

The Memorial of the Town of Boston, Humbly Sheweth,

That his Majestys good Subjects the Inhabitants of said Town are greatly concerned that the Care and pains taken by their Selectmen, at the motion of the Inhabitants in Town Meeting Assembled on the twenty second instant are frustrated & Rendered ineffectual by the illegal and contemptous refusal of the Sheriff of the County of Suffolk to Obey and Execute the warrant & mittimus of His Majestys Justices of the peace granted according to Law, on the Complaint of their Selectmen for Committing Sundry French Persons now in this Town to prison, and the said Inhabitants Apprehend this proceeding of the Justices & Selectmen of the more Importance and necessity for as much as there is a Declaration on Oath of two persons, that sundry of the said French persons have [122.] Very lately threatned to set the Town on fire.

Wherefore your Memorialist humbly pray and doubt not but your Excellency and Honours will take such Methods as to your known Wisdom and Justice shall seem meet and be effectual to prevent such proceedings for the future and preserve the Authority & Laws from being brought into Contempt by the Irregular behaviour of the said Sheriff or any other Officer.

Which being Read it was thereupon Voted that the said Draft be Accepted and that a fair Copy of the same be prepared & signed by the Town Clerk, and that the Honble Samuel Welles James Allen and Exekiel Lewis Esqrs Mr. Edward Bromfield Mr. Hugh Vans, The Selectmen of the Town, Hugh Hall Esqr. Thomas Hubbard Esqr. and John Fayerweather Esqr. be a Committee to present the same to His Excellency the Governour and the Honble. the Council as the Memorial of the Town.

Then the Meeting was Dismissed.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly Qualified & lawfully Warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the Ninth day of March A.D. 1746.

Prayer being made by the Revd. Mr. Samuel Mather.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting —— Read.

The Inhabitants proceeded to the Choice of a Moderator (by a written Vote) and upon collecting the Votes it Appeared that there was no choice, and the Inhabitants were then directed to bring in their Votes again, which they accordingly did, and they being Sorted it Appeared there was no Choice, and the Inhabitants then brought in their Votes a third time and upon sorting 'em it Appeared that the Hon°. James Allen Esqr. was chose by a great Majority.

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[**123.**] Ezekiel Goldthwait was unanimously chose Town Clerk for the Year ensuing and Sworn to the faithful discharge of his Duty in that Office by the Honble. Edward Hutchinson Esqr.

Sundry Laws. Read.

Then the Town proceeded to the Choice of Officers &c^a^.

Voted to proceed to the Choice of Seven Selectmen.

The Votes being accordingly Brought in & Sorted it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chose to that office for the Year ensuing. Viz^t^.

Samuel Adams Esqr.	Select Men.
Capt. John Steel	
Capt. William Salter	
Capt. Henry Atkins declines Serving	
Abiel Walley Esqr.	
Thomas Hubbard Esqr. declines Serving	
M^r^. John Tyng	

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourn'd to three o'Clock this Afternoon.

Afternoon, The Town mett according to Adjournment.

Voted to chuse twelve constables distinct from the Collectors of Taxes. ——— accordingly ———

Messrs. William Nichols	Sworne.	Constables.
David Drowne	Excus'd.	
Joseph Foye	Excus'd.	
Elisha Foster	Excus'd.	
Elisha Dyre	Excus'd.	
William Gray	Excus'd.	
James Cunningham	Sworn.	
John Green	Excus'd.	
Edward Foster	Excus'd.	
Joseph Coit	Excus'd.	
Jonathan Cary	Sworne	
John Procter	Excus'd.	

were chosen constables for the Year ensuing.

[**124.**] Capt. Henry Atkins and Thomas Hubbard Esqr. who were chose Select Men in the forenoon having declared that their private Affairs will not permit 'em to serve in that Office, and that they desire to be Excused, —— Voted that they be Excus'd accordingly and that two other persons be chose in their room

Accordingly

M^r^. Jeremiah Belknap &
M^r^. Samuel Grant

were chose & Accepted.

Voted that any Person chose into the Office of a Constable for the Year ensuing be Excus'd from Serving provided he Pay the Sum of Twenty Pounds old tenor Bills.

Voted that any Person or Persons chosen into any office in the Town for the Year ensuing who in case of Refusal is Obliged to Pay any Fine or Penalty be excus'd from serving in such Office provided he or they Pay in Bills of the last tenor one half the Sum mentioned in the Law to be paid as a Fine for their Refusal.

Voted unanimously that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby

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is given to Jonas Clarke Esqr. M^{r}. Thomas Hancock and Capt. Henry Atkins for the faithfull Services they have done for the Town in the Office of Select Men for several Years past.

The following Gentlemen were chosen Overseers of the Poor for the Year ensuing Viz^{t}.

The Honble. Jacob Wendell Esqr.
William Tyler Esqr.
Col^{o}. John Hill
Thomas Hubbard Esqr.
Daniel Henchman Esqr.
M^{r}. Edward Bromfield
Col^{o}. William Downe
And^{r}. Oliver Esqr.
John Phillips Esqr.
M^{r}. Isaac Walker
George Rogers Esqr.
M^{r}. Eben^{r}. Storer

[125.] Messrs. Samuel Ballard Sworne
Richard Surcomb Sworne
Samuel Clough Sworne
Edward Baker Sworne
Phillip Freeman Excus'd } Constables.
Daniel McKean Sworne
William Bowles Sworne
Daniel Bell jun^{r}. Sworne
Phillip Virbert Sworne

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourned 'till to Morrow Morning 9 o'Clock.

Tuesday Morning Nine o'Clock, The Town being Assembled.

Messrs. Nathaniel Hodgdon Sworn
Thomas Hase Sworn
Josiah Carter Sworn
John Bowden Sworn } Sealers of Leather.
John Allen Sworn
James Dawson Sworne
Samuel Hastings Sworn

were chosen Sealers of Leather.

Messrs. William Moore Sworn
Story Dawes Sworn
Francis Warden Sworn } Fence Viewers.
James Barnard Sworn
Samuel Brown Engine man
William Bearsto Sworne

were chosen Fence Viewers.

Messrs. Joshua Pickman
Gillam Phillips Esqr.
Joseph Edwards
Thomas Newman } Scavengers.
Henry Newman
John Colson

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[126.] Messrs. Aeneas Mackey
Richard Hubbard
Dean Osgood
John Dixwell
Ellis Wilson
Jonathan Bowman } Scavengers.

M^r. Isaac Gridley was chosen Surveyor of Hemp. Sworn.

Messrs. Nathaniel Gardner Sworn
Richard Hubbard Excusd } Informers ab^t. Deer.

M^r. Nathaniel Band, was Chosen Haward for the Year ensuing.

Voted that the Selectmen be Surveyors of Highways.

Messrs. Thomas Cushing Pay
Leonard Jarvis
Joseph Calef Excus'd
David Jenkins Sworn
John Shaw Sworn } Hogreeves.

were Chosen Hogreeves for the Year ensuing.

M^r. Benjamin Harrod was chosen Constable for the Year ensuing, Sworn.

Messrs. Harvey Thomas
Benjamin Ingraham
Benjamin Ballard
Benjamin Barnard
Isaac Fowle
Thomas Sergeant
Benjamin Sault
Peter Cotta
John Hobbs
Sendall Williams } Cullers of Staves Hoops &C^a.

were chosen Cullers of Staves Hoops &C^a. for the Year ensuing.

[127.] John Phillips Esqr.
Capt. Joseph Russell
Capt. Isaac White
M^r. Joseph Jackson Hatter
M^r. John Scolley
M^r. James Day
John Hill Esqr.
Capt. John Carnes
Capt. Henry Berry
M^r. Robert Breck } Firewards.

were chosen Firewards for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Edward Moberley Sworn
Joseph White Sworn
Edward Richards Sworn
Thomas Warden Sworn
William Pain Sworn
Isaac Vergoose Sworn
William Nichols Sworn
Josiah Waters Sworn
James Barnard Sworn
Andrew Symmes } Viewers of Boards Shingles &C^a

were chosen Viewers of Boards Shingles &c^a. for the Year ensuing.

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Mr. Michael Dennis was chosen Constable for the Year ensuing, — Excus'd

Messrs.	Richard Buckley	Sworn	Assessors.
	Jacob Parker	Sworn	
	Joshua Blanchard	Sworn	
	Capt. Nathl. Barber	Sworn	
	Mr. William Fairfield	Sworn	
	Capt. Daniel Pecker	Sworn	
	Capt. John Goldthwait	Sworn	

were chosen Assessors for the Year Ensuing.

Voted that the Town proceed to the choice of a County Treasurer at four a Clock this Afternoon.

[128.] Mr. John Gould was chosen Constable for the Year ensuing, Excus'd.

Mr. Sampson Sheaffe was Chosen Constable for the Year ensuing, Paid.

The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for a Town Treasurer and they being Collected and Sorted it Appeared that the Hon°. Joseph Wadsworth Esqr. was Chosen by a great Majority & Sworn.

Mr. Thomas Milliken was Chosen a Constable. — Sworn.

The following Gentlemen were chosen a committee for Auditing the Town Treasurers Accounts for the Year ensuing Vizt.

Messrs.	Edmund Quincy	Auditors.
	William Cooper	
	Thomas Greene	
	Joshua Winslow Esqr.	
	Harrison Gray	

and they are desired to make Report as usual, and the said Committee are desired to Audit the Accompts of the Overseers of the Poor respecting the Almshouse and the Workhouse, and to Attend doing the same at the Usual place of the said Overseers Meeting and make Report hereon as Usual.

Messrs.	Isaac Casno	Sworn	Clerks of the Market.
	Thomas Edwards	Sworn	
	Thomas Hill	Excus'd	
	James Allen	Sworn	
	Richard Billings	Sworn	
	Samuel Gerrish	Sworn	
	Nathaniel Thayer	Sworn	
	Thomas Baxter	Sworn	
	Thomas Newman	Sworn	
	John Smith	Sworn	
	William Baker	Sworn	
	Samuel Adams junr.	Sworn	
	Stephen Whiting	Sworn	

Were Chosen Clerks of the Market for the Year ensuing.

Upon a Motion made and Seconded, That the Town would [129.] Proceed to the Choice of a Clerk for Faneuil Hall Market, It was Voted that the Town will not choose any person to be Clerk of said Market.

Upon Reading the Petition of the Watchmen of the Town for

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an Addition to their Wages and Allowance for that Service, Voted that the said Petition be referr'd to the Selectmen, they to consider thereof & Report thereon at the next General Town Meeting.

The Selectmen's Report on the Account of Mr. John Fenno keeper of the Grainary for the Year past as Entred in his Book (and on File in the Town Clerks Office) Read & Voted that the said Report be Accepted and accordingly that Mr. John Fenno be further accountable to the Town for nine bushels of Meal at 20/ p Bushel, and One hundred & twenty Bushels of Corn at 18/ p Bushel, being One hundred & Seventeen pounds, & also for the sum of Seven Hundred & twenty three pounds five Shillings & Seven pence, the whole of which amounts to Eight Hundred & forty pounds five shill^s. & Seven pence old tenor, which remains in his hands, exclusive of his Salary, which is One hundred pounds, & for Assistance thirty pounds, to the third instant, which is hereby also allowed him.

The Town brought in their Votes for a Com^tee. for purchasing Grain, & it appear'd that

Messrs. John Gardner
John Salter } Committee for Purchasing Grain.
Robert Watt

were chosen a Committee for Purchasing Grain.

The said Committee are desired & Impowered to give all needfull directions to the keeper of the Granary respecting the Quantity's of Grain to be Sold and setting the Price thereof from time to time as occasion shall require.

The Town entred upon the Consideration of that article in the Warrant for Purchasing a Quantity of Cord Wood in the Summer for the Relief of the Poor in Winter and after some Debate thereon Voted, that

Mr. Robert Rand
Mr. Rufus Greene
Mr. David Colson
Joshua Cheever Esqr.
Mr. Nathl. Greenwood

[130.] be and hereby are appointed a Committee to consider what is best for the Town to do in this Affair and the Method for Effecting the same and Report hereon at the next General Town Meeting.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourn'd to 3 o'Clock Afternoon.

Three o'Clock Afternoon, The Town being mett according to Adjournment.

The Town Entered into the consideration of that article in the Warrant whether they will fence in that part of the Common or Training field from Mr. Stephen Greenleafs to Mr. Jacob Sheaffs and after some Debate thereon, Voted that the same be dismissed.

Voted that the Assessors be and hereby are allowed to sit upon Abatements until the last day of July and no longer.

The Town Entered upon the consideration of that part of the Petition of Messrs. Joseph White Benjamin Edwards William Larrabee and Elias Dupee Collectors of Taxes & C^a. praying the

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Town would be pleased to Augment the allowance made 'em for collecting the Taxes in the Year 1745 and 1746, for reasons therein mentioned and after some Debate thereon, A Question was put, whether the Town would make any further Allowance to said collectors over & and above the 9d. on the Pound already Voted 'em, and it Pass'd in the Negative.—— and then.

The Town Entered into the consideration of the other part of their Petition Vizt. that as many of the Inhabitants of the Town in the Years 1744 and 1745 were gone beyond Sea and never returned and many other Collectors the Taxes were delivered to said Collectors and no Abatement has as yet have been made 'em. The Town at the same time took into consideration the Petition of Capt. John Goldthwait and Mr. Jacob Sheaffe late Collectors of Taxes for this Town setting forth that for several Years past they were Collectors of the Taxes in said Town and during that time had committed to them by the Assessors of said Town the Taxes of sundry Persons to Collect that were abroad at Sea at the time when they received the Books of the Assessors many of whom Your Petitioners never saw they not having returned since [**131.**] and other Inhabitants during the time dyed so extremely Poor that the Petitioners notwithstanding all their Care and Pains could not get any part of the Taxes of such Poor, and it is not now in the Power of the Assessors to make 'em any Abatements praying a committee may be appointed to enquire and make Report of all such Taxes as they in Justice apprehend the Petrs. ought to be abated after some Debate Voted that

Capt. Jeffery Bedgood Mr. Thomas Greene Mr. Edmund Quincy Mr. Stephen Boutineau & Carnelius Waldo Esqrs.	Committee.

be and hereby are appointed a Committee to take into consideration the said Petitions, hear the Petitioners thereon and Report as soon as may be what Taxes they apprehend the said Petitioners ought to be Abated.

The Inhabitants proceeded to bring in their Votes for a County Treasurer which being collected were according to Law Sealed up by Constable Bell to be by him kept and Returned to the next Quarter Sessions for this County.

The Town Entred into the consideration of the Petition of a great Number of Inhabitants living in and frequenting the Street called Atkinson Street bounded Northerly on Milk Street and Southerly on Cow Lane, That there has been for some Years past much Pains as well as Money expending in the Planking, gravelling and draining said Street in order to make it more commodious, but to so little purpose hitherto that it is Notorious to every Passenger in the Spring Summer and Fall of the Year, that it is scarce passable with Carts Trucks or any heavy Carriage, in somuch that the urgent necessity of its being paved has Exhibited the memorialists several of them to contribute to their utmost, and as they humbly Conceive generously towards it, praying the Town to order and direct that the said Street be Accepted and Registred as one of the

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Common Streets of the Town, and paved as soon as may be and what the Cost thereof shall amount to, more than Subscriptions already obtained being about Eleven Hundred pounds old tenor to be paid out of the Town Treasury, After some Debate upon said Petition, It was Voted that the sum of Six Hundred Pounds old tenor Bills be and hereby is Allowed to be paid out of the Treasury towards paving the said Street, provided the Abutters [132.] or others on their Behalf will undertake to Pay the remaining of the charge for paving the same, The Paving thereof to be under the direction of the Selectmen, and when the said Street shall be compleated Paved and finished, Voted that the said Street be and hereby is Accepted, and that the same be Registered as one of the Common Streets of the Town by the Name of Atkinson Street.

The Petition of a Number of Inhabitants neighbours to & Dwellers in Water Street, setting forth, That the said Street after great Rains & in the Spring and Fall of the Year has a considerable Stand of Water in it near the coach house of the late Col°. Fitch, and notwithstanding the Street is Paved, there is for the greatest part of the Year a Slough of Dirt and Filth so that the way is almost impassible whereby the Inhabitants of the Town as well as Passengers are greatly impeded, and those that dwell near greatly Injured, praying the Towns Consideration of the premises, and that some proper Methods may be taken to Remove the said Inconvenience and Nusance that the Inhabitants suffer by said Stand of Water, and also the Incumbrance on the Towns Land thereabout, and after some Debate thereon, Voted that

Messrs. Joshua Blanchard, Thomas Paine & Joseph Calef } Committee.

be and hereby are appointed a Committee to take the said Petition into consideration, Enquire into the Nusances & Incumbrances Complained of, and Report as soon as may be what Method is best for the Town to take in order to Remove the same, and prevent the like for the future.

The Inhabitants proceeded to consider of the article in the warrant for further Fortifying the Town, and after a Short Debate Voted that nothing further be done hereupon, and dismissed the same.

Messrs. William Procto
Samuel Proctor
William Owen
Isaac White
John Breck
[133.] Thomas Boucher
Robert Rand
John Barrett
Henry Berry
John Welch
Nathaniel Thwing
John Simpson Brazier

were chosen Tythingmen for the Year ensuing.

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Voted that nine pence on the pound be and hereby is allowed to be paid to such persons as shall be chosen to collect the Taxes within the Ensuing Year on all such Sums as they shall collect they Paying unto the Town Treasurer one half part of the whole Sum they shall be obliged to Pay him within three months from the time they shall receive the Tax Books from the Assessors, and the other half part in three months after, and also Paying to the Province and County Treasurers one half part of the whole sums they shall be obliged to pay them in six months from the time they shall receive the said Books from the Assessors and the other half part in Six months after, and in case either of the said Collectors shall fail paying the said Treasurers in the above manner, the collector so failing shall not be intitled to the aforesaid allowance of Nine pence on the Pound for collecting but wholly Forfeit the same. —— Provided also that the said collectors give Bond, with Sufficient Suretys to the Satisfaction of the Selectmen for the faithful Discharge of their Duty in said office.

Then the Town proceeded to the Choice of Six Collectors of Taxes accordingly, and upon Collecting and Sorting the Votes it Appeared that

Messrs. John Staniford
Benjamin Edwards
William Larrabee
Andrew Cunningham
Elias Dupee &
John Ruddock

were chosen to that Office.

Voted that all matters and Things that remain unfinished be and hereby are Referred over to the next General Town [**134.**] Meeting to be then considered of and Acted upon.

Voted that Thanks be given to the Hon^o^. James Allen Esqr. the Moderator of this meeting for his Care and Pains in Managing the Affairs thereof. ——

Then the Meeting was Dismissed.

At a meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly Qualified and legally warned in Public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Friday the third day of April, Anno Dom—i 1747.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting. —— Read.

The Petition of a great Number of Inhabitants for calling the Meeting also Read.

Voted that a Moderator be chose by a handy Vote and the Honble. James Allen Esqr. being Nominated he was accordingly Chose.

A Motion was made by M^r^. John Ruddock & Seconded, that Faneuil Hall Market be shutt up on every Day of the week, except Monday in the Forenoon until the Town shall order otherwise and after a considerable Debate thereon, M^r^. Ruddock desired to withdraw his Motion which was granted and the same was withdrawn accordingly, —— then

A Motion was made by M^r^. Daniel Pecker that said Market be

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shut up until the second Tuesday of September next which being seconded by several Inhabitants, A Question was put, and it was accordingly Voted that Faneuil Hall Market be not again Opened until the second Tuesday of September next any By-Law of the Town to the Contrary notwithstanding also.

Voted that the Selectmen be and hereby are desired to [135.] Call a Town Meeting for the Inhabitants to Assemble on the first Tuesday of Septem^r. next to take into consideration what the Town will further do with respect to opening said Market after the second Tuesday of September.

Then the Meeting was Dismissed.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Tuesday the twelfth day of May A.D. 1747.

Prayer was made by the Rev^d. M^r. Ellis Gray.

The Precept and Warrant for calling the Meeting. Read.

Sundry laws Read.

Samuel Adams Esqr. one of the Selectmen in their Name proposed to the Inhabitants Assembled to proceed to the choice of a person or persons to serve for and Represent them in the Great and General Court or Assembly to be held at Boston upon Wednesday the Twenty seventh day of May instant, and in order thereto to consider and Ascertain the Number of Gentlemen to be Elected accordingly, Voted to proceed to the choice of four Representatives and it was Declared that the Poll be closed at Twelve a Clock.

The Votes being collected the Number of Votes were found be Four Hundred and fifty one, and upon Sorting the Votes it Appeared that the following Gentlemen were chose Vizt.

	No. of Votes.
The Honble. Thomas Hutchinson Esqr.	292.
The Hon^o. James Allen Esqr.	270.
Thomas Hubbard Esqr.	416.
Samuel Adams Esqr.	281.

The Election of Representatives being over, and the same being declared by the Selectmen.

The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for a Moderator and [136.] Upon Sorting the same it appeared that the Honble. James Allen Esqr. was chose by a great Majority. ——

Then the Meeting was Adjourn'd to three a Clock in the Afternoon.

Three a Clock in the Afternoon, The Town mett according to Adjournment.

The Petition of M^r. Zachariah Hicks master of the North Writing School setting forth that four Years ago he had Two hundred & Eighty Pounds old tenor Bills granted him by the Town for his Support which at that time was to his full content and Satisfaction, but within that course of Years the currency of the province has sunk in its Value to that Degree that the aforesaid Sum is become very far Short of Answering the purpose for which it was designed, and he is thereby Exposed to such Difficulties as are too great an Incumbrance to him in the faithful Discharge of his Trust, Pray-

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ing the Town to Grant him such further an allowance as they shall think proper, was now read & after some Debate thereon.——

Voted that the Sum of one hundred Pounds old tenor Bills be Added to Mr. Hicks's Sallary for the Year ensuing, the same to be paid him Quarterly, and to Commence the 22d. of March last.

The Petition of Mr. John Proctor junr. Usher of the North Writing School praying for an Addition to his Salary was taken into Consideration and after some Debate thereon.

Voted that the Town will not at present make any Addition to Mr. Proctors Salary, but that said Petition be dismissed.

The Petition of Mr. Joseph Hubbard setting forth that the Petitioner sometime since laid open a part of his pasture situate on the South side of Forthill in Boston for his own convenience which way is Twelve feet wide and two hundred and forty feet in Length being opposite to Olivers Lane leading up to the said Hill, and runs from Cow Lane down to Purchase Street late Harrisons Ropewalk and inasmuch as the Petitioner freely Advanced and paid the Sum of one hundred and ten Pounds to Compleat the Purchase of said Street for the [137.] Publick Benefit, and also laid out a way of Twenty two feet in Wedth thro the Petitioners Pasture land leading from Purchase Street aforesaid to the South Battery which he freely gave the Town and is on the Town Book, And as the Town has Land Adjoyning to the Petitioners pasture Land on the Northwest and Northerly sides thereof, he therefore Prays the Towns consideration of the premisses and that the Town would be pleased to grant him a Strip of Land in Lieu thereof the same Length and wedth with the said Twelve foot way, or as wide as the Petitioners shall enlarge said way, or the Selectmen shall think proper, was Read and thereupon Voted that the Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to consider of this Petition hear the Petitioner thereupon and Report what they apprehend will be best for the Town to do as to the granting the prayer thereof, and Report hereon.

The Petition of Samuel Bass and Kezia Harvey both of Boston, Setting forth, That the Town of Boston stand Seized in Fee of and in a certain Peice or Parcel of Land with a Stable Shop and Shed thereon standing situate in Boston aforesaid Bounded Northerly on water Street one hundred feet, Easterly on said Bass's Land about Twenty nine feet, Southerly on said Bass and Harvys Land about one hundred feet, and Westerly on Joyliffs Lane Twenty seven feet which Land fetches in but a small Rent to the Town, but being near unto Land of the Petitioners and more convenient for them than any others they are desirous of Purchasing the same, provided they can have it at a reasonable Price, & therefore desired the Town would pass a Vote fully Impowering the Selectmen to pass and Execute a good Deed or Deeds of such Lands to your Petitioners in such manner and for such a Sum of Money as shall be agreed upon, was Read, and thereupon It was Voted that Messrs. Joshua Blanchard Samuel Hughes, Daniel Pecker, William Palfrey and William Fairfield be and hereby are appointed a Committee to consider of said Petition, View the Premisses and Report

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to the Town whether they Apprehend it will be for the Benefit and Interest of the Town to grant the Prayer thereof & Report hereon.

The Petition of Mr. Thomas Paine praying the Town would Lease or Lett to him a peice of Land forty feet Square or thereabouts to sett a Warehouse upon on the North Side of the Market and Eastward of Mr. Billings's Shop —— was Read and Voted that the same be dismissed.

The Petition of several Freeholders and Inhabitants praying the Town would take some effectual Method to prevent the great Oppression they Labour under by the Millers Engrossing the Grain from time to [**138.**] time; and that Application be made by the Great and General Court or Assembly for Relief herein, — was Read and after some Debate hereon It was Voted that the Gentlemen the Representatives of the Town be and they are hereby desired to use their utmost endeavours to get a Law passed the said Great and General Court that the Town may be redressed in this matter as soon as may be.

The Committee appointed the Ninth of March last on the Petition of Joseph White, Benjamin Edwards, William Larrabee and Elias Dupee Collectors of Taxes for the Town of Boston now Reported that they had mett the Petitioners and Examined into the Circumstances of the several Persons whose Taxes they have Petitioned for an Abatement of, and are of opinion that the Sum of Fifty eight Pounds one shilling and eight pence be Abated Mr. Collector White, that the Sum of Twenty one pounds seventeen shillings be Abated Mr. Collector Edwards, and that the Sum of Thirty two Pounds seventeen shillings and four pence be Abated to Mr. Collector Dupee, the whole Sum amounting to one hundred and ten Pounds twelve shillings & four Pence old tenor. —— which Report was Accepted and thereupon, it was Voted that the Selectmen be and hereby they are desired to give a Draft on the Town Treasury to said White, Edwards, and Dupee for the respective Sum Abated 'em as mentioned in said Report.

The Committee appointed the Ninth of March last on the Petition of John Goldthwait and Jacob Sheaffe late Collectors of Taxes for the Town now Reported that they had mett the Petitioners & Examined into the Circumstances of the several Persons whose Taxes they have Petitioned for an Abatement of, and are of Opinion that the sum of Two hundred seventeen Pounds two shillings and Eight Pence old tenor be Abated Mr. Collector Sheaff and that the Sum of Three hundred sixty seven Pounds Eighteen shillings old tenor be Abated Mr. Collector Goldthwait which Report was Read & accepted, and it was thereupon Voted that the Selectmen be and they hereby are desired to give a Draft on the Town Treasurer to said Goldthwait and Sheaff for the respective Sums Abated 'em as mentioned in said Report.

The Committee appointed the ninth day of March last [**139.**] to consider of the Petition of the Watchmen of the Town for their Pay or allowance Reported that they apprehend the Sum of Seven pounds ten shillings old tenor Bills ought to be allowed unto each able bodied Watchman of the Town for every Month they shall faithfully Discharge their Duty, and follow such orders and Direc-

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tions as they shall from time to time receive from the Selectmen for the time being, which was Accepted, and it was thereupon.

Voted that the Sum of Seven Pounds ten shillings old tenor Bills be allowed to each Able Bodied Watchman p Month accordingly and that the same Commence when the Selectmen think proper.

The Town being informed that the Selectmen on the Eighth Instant presented their Petition to His Excellency Charles Knowles Esqr. Governour of the Island of Cape Breton (now residing here requesting him to Grant Liberty and Protection to the Inhabitants of this Town to fetch Sea Coal from Cape Breton and that he gave them a very favourable answer to the same.

Voted that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby is given to the Gentlemen the Selectmen for their great care of the Town in Applying to Governour Knowles in that manner.

Also Voted that the Gentlemen the Representatives of the Town be and hereby are appointed a Committee to draw up a Letter of Thanks to Governour Knowles for his Kind Reception of the Selectmen when they waited upon him with the above Petition and the great encouragement he gave 'em that he would grant the Prayer thereof, and the great Regard he expressed to have for the Town &C^{a}.

The Committee appointed the ninth day of March last to consider of the Petition of several Inhabitants relating to the Nusances and Incumbrances in Water Street complained of in said Petition and what method is best for the Town to take in order to remove the same and prevent the like for the future, now Reported that having considered of said Petition and Viewed the Incumbrances therein mentioned find that the Antient and Natural course of the water or Creek which belongs to the Town is Stopped by several Buildings being Erected over it Viz^{t}. the Coach house in the Possession of James Allen Esqr. the [140.] Buildings of James Beighton, John Walley Esqr. John Hunt Esqr. Mrs. Kath^{a}. Noyes and M^{r}. John Norton on the South Side, and M^{r}. Edward Bromfield M^{r}. Christopher Tilden and M^{r}. John Dupee on the North side thereof, all of whom they Apprehend have encroached upon said Creek and thereby occasion'd the obstruction of said Water course, and that they judge the only effectual way for to be taken for Removing said Nusances and Incumbrances and Preventing the same for the future is to prosecute all such Persons as have made said Encroachments in case they shall refuse to remove 'em and thereby the Town will have restored to 'em said Water course or Creek which will be a very great Benefit to the Town, which was Read and Accepted, and it was thereupon ——

Voted that the same Committee Viz^{t}. M^{r}. Joshua Blanchard M^{r}. Thomas Paine and M^{r}. Joseph Calef or any two of 'em be and they hereby are Appointed a Committee for and in behalf of the Town to bring forward any Suit or Suits in the Law, against any Person or Persons whatsoever that have made or cause to have made any Encroachments on the Towns Lands situate in Water Street or near to Olivers Dock or adjoyning upon the same in this Town, and in the Name of the Town to Appear in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record, and Pursue such Suit or Suits until final Judg-

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ment and Execution and Act and do whatsoever they or any two of 'em shall Judge necessary to be done in and about the Premisses.

Voted a Grant of Seventeen Thousand Pounds old tenor Bills to be raised by a Tax upon Polls and Estates within the Town of Boston for Relief of the Poor, and defreying other necessary Charges arising within and for said Town the Year ensuing.

The Report of the Selectmen on the Visitation of the Publick Schools Read and is as follows Viz^{t}.

To the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston in Town Meeting Assembled May 12. 1747.

Pursuant to a Vote of the Town of Boston at their Meeting the fourteenth of May last desiring the Selectmen to Visit the several **[141.]** Publick Schools in the Town, and Invite such Gentlemen to accompany them therein as they shall think proper, and to Report thereon.

We the Subscribers Attended that Service on Wednesday the Twenty fifth day of June last Accompanyed by the following Gentlemen. —— Viz^{t}.

The Honble. Edward Hutchinson Esqr.
The Hon^{o}. John Jeffries Esqr.
The Hon^{o}. Andrew Oliver Esqr.
William Tyler Esqr.
John Hill Esqr.
The Gentlemen the Representatives
of the Town of Boston.
The Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Thomas Prince
The Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Thomas Foxcroft
The Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Ellis Gray
The Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Andrew Eliot
The Rev^{d}. M^{r}. William Cooper
The Hon^{o}. Joseph Wadsworth Esqr.
Joshua Cheever Esqr.
Danl. Henchman Esqr.
Francis Borland Esqr.
M^{r}. Middlecott Cooke
M^{r}. Edmund Quincy
M^{r}. Edward Bromfield
Col^{o}. William Downe
M^{r}. Thomas Greene
Capt. John Wendell and
M^{r}. Thomas Oxnard

and found the South Grammer School wherein were one hundred and nine Scholars in very good Order, the South writing school in the Common consisting of Two hundred & forty scholars in like good order, the Writing School in Queen Street of Sixty one Scholars in good order, the North writing School wherein were Two hundred and fifty Scholars in very good order & the North Grammar School of 35 Scholars in good order.

SAMUEL ADAMS
JOHN STEEL
W^{M}. SALTER
ABIEL WALLEY
} Selectmen.

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[142.] Voted that this Report be Accepted and that the Gentlemen the Selectmen be desired to Visit the Publick Schools the Year Ensuing & that they Invite such Gentlemen to Accompany them therein as they shall think convenient & Report thereon.

The Report of a Committee appointed to Audit the Town Treasurers Accompts for the Year past, as entred in the Treasurers Books — Read — Accepted, and

Voted that the Treasurer be (so far) accordingly Discharged.

Voted that the Sum of Three hundred Pounds old tenor Bills be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury unto the Hon°. Joseph Wadsworth Esqr. for his Salary as Town Treasurer the Year past.

Voted that the Sum of one hundred pounds old tenor bills be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury unto M^r. Abijah Adams in full for his Service as Clerk of Faneuil Hall Market for the Year 1746.

M^r. David Jenkins chose one of the Clerks of the Market for the Year ensuing. ——

Messrs. Nathaniel Martyn
John Wendell, Ship Chandler } Hogreeves.

The Committee appointed to prepare a Draft of a By Law for the better Regulation of Funerals now Reported the same as follows Viz^t.

For Preventing the Spreading of Infection in Burying Persons Dying of Malignant Distempers and Rendering the Attendance of the Corps of the Deceased to the Grave less offensive to Paul holders and Under bearers.

And to the Intent there may be stated fixed Prices for digging and carrying to the Grave tolling of Bells &c^a.

Therefore Voted that for the future no Person whatsoever shall Presume to break up the Ground in any of the Publick Burial Places but with the Consent of the Selectmen or the Persons [143.] Appointed by the Selectmen to the charge of such Burial Place, and for such Prices for opening Tombs and digging of Graves as the Selectmen from time to time shall order and appoint on Pain of Forfeiting Twenty Shillings for every such Offence.

That for the future every Person dying within the Town of Boston that is not carryed in a coach or by hand shall be carryed to the Grave on a Bier to be provided by the Town for that Purpose, and every under bearer that shall presume otherways to carry any Deceased Person or Persons to the Grave each and every of them shall forfeit Twenty shillings for every such Office. ——

That no Person shall presume to take the care of or serve as under bearers at Funerals within the Town of Boston but such as shall be Approved by the Selectmen of the Town on Pain of Forfeiting the Sum of Twenty shillings for every Offence. ——

And all Persons Approved as aforesaid shall duly Attend said Business (if required thereto) and shall receive for their service such Reward only as shall be ordered by the Selectmen to be paid by the Person or Persons employing them on the Penalty of Twenty shillings for every Offence.

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And every under bearer refusing to give his or their Attendance as aforesaid or demanding or Receiving for his Fees more than shall be ordered as aforesaid shall forfeit and Pay Twenty shillings.

That for the Burial of any Person within the Town of Boston there shall not be more than the Bells of two Churches toll'd and that but twice at each Church on Penalty of Twenty shillings for each Bell more that shall be Toled at one and the same Funeral to be paid by him that shall order Procure or Tole the same. ——

The second or Passing Bell not to exceed one hour and half after the first on Penalty aforesaid. ——

That any Person demanding or Receiving any more than the Selectmen shall allow for twice Tolling said Bell at one Funeral shall forfeit the Sum of Twenty shillings.

All Fines and Forfeitures arising from the Breach of the aforesaid orders upon Conviction before any Justice of the Peace for the County of Suffolk to be to the use of the Poor of the Town of Boston.

The above order or By Law to continue and be in Force till the Town shall see cause to Alter the same.

And after some Debate thereon Voted that the same be accepted and that the Gentlemen the Select Men be and they [**144.**] hereby are desired to present said By Law or order for the better Regulating of Funerals to the next Court of General Sessions of the Peace to be held for the County of Suffolk for their Allowance and Approbation.

Voted that all matters and Things that remain unfinished be referr'd over to the next General Town Meeting to be then considered of and Acted upon.

Voted that the Thanks of the Town be given to the Hon°. James Allen Esqr. the Moderator of this Meeting for dispatching the business thereof.

Then the Meeting was Dismissed.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and lawfully warned in Public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the twenty ninth day of June A.D. 1747.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting —— Read.

The Town proceeded to the Choice of a Moderator by a handy Vote and Abiel Walley Esqr. being Nominated was accordingly chosen.

The Selectmen Communicated to the Town a Letter they received from his Excellency Governour Shirley —— which was Read and is in the Words following Vizt.

To the Selectmen of the Town of Boston,

Boston June 23^d. 1747.

Gent^m.

I send You the Inclos'd Extract from Governour Knowles Letter, that You may Communicate it to the Town in such manner as You shall think proper. —— And as I have reason to Apprehend from Accounts I have receiv'd that the Fuel already

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bespoke in some Country Places for the Supply of this Town in the present Year will be rais'd before the winter [**145.**] is over to a most Excessive Price unless it is prevented by the Importing a considerable Quantity of Wood from the Eastern parts which may be very Ruinous to the Poor of this Town in particular I would recommend it to you to consider of some method for the Encouragement of bringing in a large Supply of wood from the Eastern parts at as moderate a Rate as may be in which if I can Assist you by granting Protection for safe guarding the Men that shall be employed in carrying the Wood to the Vessells & loading it on beard of 'em I shall be very ready to do it, or anything else in my Power that may be propos'd to me for the forwarding of this Affair.

Your most Assured Friend
and Servant
W. SHIRLEY.

The Paragraph of Governour Knowles Letter in Governour Shirleys is as follows Vizt.

Extract of Governour Knowles's Letter to Governour Shirley dated at Annapolis Royal May 25th. 1747.

"I desire you will be pleased to Acquaint the Town of Boston that I will order 'em to be supplyed with Coal without staying 'till the Garrison is first provided, being glad of an Opportunity to oblige your Excellency, and Serve the Province."

And after some Debate thereon,

Voted that John Fayerweather Esq.
The Hon°. James Bowdoin Esqr.
M^r. Thomas Greene
M^r. Thomas Paine
M^r. Joseph Marion
The Hon°. Samuel Welles Esqr. &
The Hon°. Andrew Oliver Esqr.

be and hereby are appointed a Committee to consider what method will be most Effectual for the Town to take in order to Supply themselves with Cord Wood from the Eastward part of this Province upon the Encouragement given by Governour Shirley and Report hereon to the Town as soon as may be.

And the said Committee are also desired to draw up a Letter [**146.**] Of Thanks to Governour Shirley for the early and seasonable Care of the Town he has been pleased to take in this Affair, and the Readiness he has expressed in this Letter of doing every thing in his Power to forward the same, and Report hereon.

Also Voted that the Gentlemen the Selectmen and the Representatives of the Town be and hereby are appointed A Committee to consider what will be the best method for the Town to take in order to support themselves with Sea Coal from Cape Breton upon the Encouragement given by Governour Knowles and Report hereon as soon as may be.

And the said Committee are also desired to draw up a Letter of Thanks to Governour Shirley for the Encouragement given in his Letter that the Town shall be supplyed with Sea Coal from Cape Breton, and the tender Regards he has otherwise Expressed for the Town & C^a. and Report hereon.

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Then Voted that this meeting be adjourn'd to Fryday next at nine a Clock in the forenoon.

Fryday July 3d. 1747, The Town mett according to Adjournment.

The Committee appointed the 29th. of June last to consider what method will be most effectual for the Town to take in order to Supply themselves with cord wood from the Eastern parts of this Province upon the Encouragement given by Governour Shirley and to Prepare a Draft of a letter of Thanks to Governour Shirley now made Report as follows Vizt. "That they Apprehend it will be most Adviseable for the Town to Address his Excellency the Governour to put in Execution his kind purposes towards the Town as Expressed in his Letter to the Selectmen respecting the Protection to the Cutting Carting & Loading the Wood for the Inhabitants, and that he would be pleased to give Notice thereof in the Publick Prints, which when effected may answer the End designed."

The said Committee also Reported a Draft of a Letter of Thanks to his Excellency in the words following Vizt.

[147.] May it Please Your Excellency,

The Town of Boston with great Thankfulness acknowledge Your Paternal Care and Goodness in Your Letter of the 23d. ultº. to the Selectmen Shewing your concern and desire the Inhabitants may be comfortably and Reasonably Supplyed with Fuel. — It is therefore with a very pleasing hope of Success that we Apply and pray Your Excellency to give orders to the Forces Eastward, to guard the People in cutting wood and carting it to the several Landings and the Coasters in Loading it, and if Your Excellency thinks proper we farther Pray that it may be Publisht in the weekly Prints, that Your Excellency has given such orders that those who cutt the Wood and the Coasters and carters may carefully engage in their respective Business being Assured of Protection therein.

We gratefully acknowledge Your kind and generous Proposal as an Addition to the many Obligations we are under to pray and Endeavour that Your Administration may be as easy to Your Excellency as it is beneficial and agreeable to us.

Which being Read, it was thereupon unanimously Voted that the same be Accepted, and that a fair Copy thereof be prepared and Signed by the Town Clerk, and that,

The Honº. Edward Hutchinson Esqr.
John Osborne Esqr.
Joseph Wadsworth Esqr.
Ezekiel Lewis Esqr.
The Representatives and the
Selectmen of the Town &
Mr. Edward Bromfield.

be and hereby are appointed a Committee to wait upon his Excellency Governour Shirley with the same and present it in the Name of the Town.

The Committee appointed the 29th. of June last to consider what Method will be best for the Town to take in order to Supply them-

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selves with Sea Coal from Cape Breton upon the Encouragement given by Governour Knowles, Reported that they are of Opinion that it will by no ways be for the Benefit of the Town for them to hire Vessels to fetch Coal from Louisbourg but that the Trade be left open between that [**148.**] Place and this whereby they Apprehend this Town will in time be supplyed at an easy Rate. — And in order to effect the same have drawn up a Letter of Thanks to Governour Knowles to be forwarded to him by the first Opportunity and they Apprehend it will be a means of Removing any difficulty the masters of Vessels may meet with in loading their Vessells with Coal if the Selectmen will give such as go to Louisbourg a Letter to Governour Knowles desiring his favour and Assistance to 'em therein. — Voted that the same be Accepted and that fair Copys of said Letter of Thanks be prepared and Signed by the Selectmen, and forwarded to Governour Knowles as soon as may be. ——

The Letter prepared by the Committee is as follows Viz^t.

Boston July 3, 1747.

S^r.

His Excellency Governour Shirley has Communicated to the Town Extract of a Letter from Your Excellency, wherein You desire that he will be pleased to Acquaint that You should Order them to be supplyed with Coal without staying till the Garrison at Louisbourg was first provided, This Repeated Expression and Proof of your favourable Regards for this Town and Province require a repeated acknowledgement and we take this Opportunity in behalf of the Town and pursuant to their unanimous Vote this Day pass'd to Render our hearty thanks to Your Excellency for the same, and to desire Your Excellency's good Will and Affectionate Regards towards us.

Then the Meeting was Dismissed

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly Qualified and lawfully warned in Public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Tuesday the first day of September A.D. 1747.

The warrant for calling the meeting Read.

[**149.**] Voted that a Moderator be choose by a handy Vote and John Steel Esqr. being Nominated was unanimously chosen.

It being Suggested by many of the Inhabitants that the Bells at the North part of the Town has not been Rung this Day for the Notification of the Inhabitants to Attend this Meeting as has been usual, It was moved and Seconded by several that this meeting be therefore immediately Adjourned to three a Clock this Afternoon and Orders given by the Selectmen that the Bells be rung throughout the Town, and the Question being put It was accordingly Voted in the Affirmative.

And the Meeting was accordingly Adjourn'd to that time.

Three o'Clock in the Afternoon. The Town met according to Adjournment.

And Entred upon the consideration of Faneuil Hall Market as to opening the same after the second Tuesday of September instant

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and after a considerable Debate thereon, It was Voted that said Market be not again opened until after the third Tuesday of March next, any By Law or order of the Town to the contrary notwithstanding.

The Town considered of the Request of several of the Inhabitants that the head of the Town Dock or so much thereof as may be thought proper be filled up and after some Debate thereon, It was Voted that the Selectmen be and they hereby are desired and Impowered to fill up the head of said Dock from the Corner of the Towns Wharffe as far as the Bend of Mr. Anstrams Wharffe as soon as may be provided it does not incroach upon the Right or Liberty of any Private Persons.

The Affair of Olivers Bridge as to making some Alterations there was Considered of and Voted that the same be Dismissed.

The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for a weigher of Hay at their Engine at the South end and upon Sorting the same it Appeared that Mr. John Wardell was chose into that Place.

Voted that the Selectmen for the time being make such an Allowance to said Wardell for his Service in said Place as they shall [150.] think just and proper.

Voted that the Selectmen be a Committee to prepare a Draft of a By Law for the Regulating the Towns Engine Erected at the South End for the weighing of Hay brought to Market and Report hereon at the intended Adjournment of this Meeting.

The Selectmen appointed a Committee the twelfth of May last to consider of the Petition of Mr. Joseph Hubbard, Reported that they had Viewed the Premisses therein mentioned, and heard the Petitioner upon his Petition and Apprehend it will not be for the Advantage of the Town to Grant him the Prayer thereof, which being read Voted that said Report be Accepted and said Petition dismissed.

The Committee appointed the twelfth of May last, to consider of the Petition of Samnel Bass and Kezia Harvey praying the Town would Sell them a Peice of Land in Water Street, now Reported that they had Viewed the premisses mentioned in said Petition and fully considered of the Prayer thereof, and apprehend it will be more for the Benefit of the Town to Sell the same to such person or Persons as will give most for it than to improve it any longer in the manner it now is, — which being Read Voted that said Report be Accepted, and that said Committee be desired to enquire of the Petitioners what Sum of Money they will give for the same, and Report hereon as soon as may be.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourned to Tuesday the fifteenth day of September instant at three a Clock P.M.

Tuesday the Fifteenth day of September three o'Clock P.M. the Town met according to their Adjournment, and upon a Motion made and Seconded, It was Voted that this Meeting be immediately Adjourned to wednesday the 30th. Inst. at four a Clock P.M.

Wednesday the thirtyeth day of September 1747. at four a Clock in the Afternoon, the Town met according to Adjournment.

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[151.] And the Selectmen a Committee appointed the first Instant to prepare a Draft of a By Law for the Regulation of the Towns Engine Erected at the South end for the weighing of Hay brought to Market Now Reported their Draft of the same which is as follows Viz^t.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly Qualified and lawfully warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Tuesday the first day of September Anno Domini 1747 and from thence continued by several Adjournments until Wednesday the 30th. day of the same month and then mett.

Whereas the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston have heretofore Laboured under Difficulty's and hardships in respect of the weight of Hay brought to market by reason whereof Disputes have often arisen between the Buyer and Seller, and as a Remedy therefor for the future an Engine at the Southend of the Town convenient for weighing of Hay has been latety Erected by the Town.

Its therefore Ordered.

That from and after the first day of November next, all Carts and other Carriages of Hay as they come into Town shall be weighed at said Engine, and a Certificate of the weight of the Cart and Hay be then given, and the Cart or Carriage upon its Return be Taxed, and the weight thereof Markt on it,

That a suitable person be appointed by the Selectmen for the time being for such Term of Time as they shall think convenient to take care that the said Engine be kept in good Repair and to See the weight of all Hay thus brought to Market and give Certificates of the same, and mark the carriages on their Return as aforesaid, and that the said Person shall be under Oath to do Justice between Buyer & Seller, and attend on each day of the week except Lords Days from Sunrising to Sunsetting and make an Entry in a Book he shall keep for that Purpose of all the Hay he weighs, and that he have such an allowance for his Service as the said Selectmen for the time being shall think reasonable.

That there be allowed and Paid for every Load of Hay so weighed one Penny in Bills of the last Emission for each Hundred of Hay by the Person who Buys the same, & in case of his absence at the time of weighing then to be paid by the Importer who shall be Reimburs'd by the Buyer.

That if any Person Inhabitant of the Town of Boston aforesaid [152.] shall after the said first day of November buy or receive either by him or herself or Servant or any other Person under him or her, any Hay thus brought to market without the same be first weighed as aforesaid he or she shall forfeit and Pay the Sum of Twenty shillings for every Load or Parcel so bought or received as aforesaid.

The aforegoing By Law having been read three several times It was Voted that the same be Accepted and that the Selectmen be and they hereby are desired to present it to the next Court of General Sessions of the Peace to be held for the County of Suffolk for their Approbation and Allowance.

Then the Meeting was Dismiss'd.

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At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly Qualified and lawfully warned in Public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Fryday the Twentyeth day of November A.D. 1747.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting. — Read.

The Honble. Edward Hutchinson Esqr. was chosen Moderator.

Whereas great Disorders for several days past have been committed within this Town and Insults and Abuses offered to his Excellency the Governour and the Honble. His Majestys Council when sitting by a Number chiefly Strangers) who this week Assembled together and Committed great outrages and Disorders putting the Inhabitants of the Town in great Terror of their Lives &c^a^. the Inhabitants now Assembled together in order to consider what is necessary for them to do to Evidence their Disavowing and Detestation of this unjustifiable Affair and after some Debate thereon, Voted that a Committee be chose to prepare a Vote proper for the Town to Pass concerning the same, and that ——

[153.] The Honble. Samuel Welles Esqr.
The Hon^o^. Thos. Hutchinson Esqr.
The Hon^o^. Andrew Oliver Esqr.
M^r^. Thomas Greene &
M^r^. Josiah Quincy,

be the Committee for that Purpose, who are desired to withdraw to the Selectmens Chamber and Report as soon as may be, the said Committee withdrew and about an hours time returned into the meeting with the following Draft of a Vote, which was Read Accepted and accordingly Voted Viz^t^.

It being Represented that the Town had been charged or the generality of the Inhabitants with Abetting or Encouraging the late Tumultuous Riotous Assembly which Insulted his Excellency the Governour and the other Branches of the Legislature, and committed many other heineous offences, Resolved as the unanimous opinion of the Town in this large Meeting of the Inhabitants, That the said Riotous Tumultuous Assembly consisted of Foreign Seamen, Servants Negroes and other Persons of mean and Vile Condition, that this Town have the utmost Abhorence of such Illegal Criminal Proceedings and will to their utmost Discountenance and Suppress the same, and will at the same time encourage by all ways and means whatsoever any of their Inhabitants in making a Regular orderly Application to the proper Power for redressing all and every Grievance which the Town is under from the Impressing of their Inhabitants on Board his Majestys Ships of War which may have occasioned the said Tumultuous disorderly Assembling.

Also unanimously Voted that the Town Clerk prepare fair Copys of this Vote or Resolution of the Town, and that the Hon^o^. Edward Hutchinson Esqr. the Moderator of this Meeting and the Selectmen of the Town be and hereby are appointed a Committee to wait upon his Excellency Governour Shirley The Honble. His Majesty's Council and the Honble. House of Representatives, and in the Name of the Town present 'em with the same.

Then the Meeting was Dismissed.

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[154.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly Qualified and lawfully warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Fryday the Eighteenth day of December A.D. 1747.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting. — Read.

The Town proceeded to choose a Moderator by a written Vote and they being brought in and Sorted it Appeared that the Honble. James Allen Esqr. was Chosen.

The Town proceeded to take into consideration the Petition of a Number of Inhabitants setting forth, That it is with uncommon concern they observe in the post Boy of the 14th. Instant two Letters from his Excellency the Governour to M^r^. Secretary Willard, wherein are some Paragraphs which have a tendency to put the Town in a disadvantageous light with his Majesty, notwithstanding the repeated Instances at all times shewn by her Inhabitants that they Apprehend the Inhabitants are greatly Affected in their Characters by these Letters, praying the Town would consult upon proper measures to Vindicate their Injur'd Characters and secure their Invaluable Priviledges, and after a very long Debate thereon — It was Voted that a Committee be raised for that Purpose and that said Committee consist of five Persons and be choose by a written Vote and the Votes being brought in and Sort'd it appeared that.

Abiel Walley Esqr.
M^r^. Jeremiah Allen
M^r^. Josiah Quincy
M^r^. Thomas Paine &
M^r^. Harrison Gray

were Chose to be said Committee, and they are desired to make Report hereon at the intended Adjournment of this Meeting.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourn'd to Thursday [155.] The Twenty fourth Instant at three o'Clock Afternoon.

Thursday the Twenty fourth of December, three o'Clock in the Afternoon. — The Town met according to their Adjournment.

The Committee appointed the Eighteenth Instant to consider what Methods are necessary to be taken by the Town to Vindicate their Injured Characters & Secure their Invaluable Priviledges, now Reported what they Apprehend ought to be done thereupon, which was Read and is on file and after a very long debate had on said Report, It was Voted that the same be referr'd at the Adjournment of this Meeting for consideration, and that said Report be lodged with the Town Clerk for the Perusal of the Inhabitants that shall desire it.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourned to Tuesday the Twenty ninth Instant at nine o Clock in the Forenoon.

Tuesday the Twenty ninth of December, nine a Clock in the Forenoon, The Town met according to their Adjournment.

And it being moved and seconded that the Report of the Committee made the 24th. Instant may be Recommitted to the same

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Gentlemen for Amendment a long Debate was had thereon, and it was. ——

Voted that said Report shall not be Recommitted to said Committee.

And then it was Moved and Seconded and accordingly the Question was put? Whether the said Report of the Committee be Accepted.

And it pass'd in the Negative by a very great Majority.

Voted that said Report be Dismissed.

And then it was moved and Voted that Thomas Hubbard Esqr. The Honble. Thomas Hutchinson Esqr. M^{r}. Edward Bromfield, The Honble. Andrew Oliver Esqr. and M^{r}. Josiah Quincy be a committee to draw up a Petition to his Excellency the Governour desiring that he will be pleased to consider the Disadvantageous light he has set the Town in to the World by the Publication of his two Letters in the Boston Weekly Post Boy of the 14th. Instant, and that he would use his Endeavours to Remove the same and Report their Draft thereof this Afternoon,

Voted That this Meeting be Adjourned to four o'Clock P.M. [**156.**] to Receive the Report of said Committee.

At four a Clock in the Afternoon the Town met according to their Adjournment. —— and

The Committee appointed in the forenoon to prepare a Petition to the Governour now Reported a Draft of the same which was Read and is as follows Viz^{t}.

May it Please Your Excellency.

The Inhabitants of the Town of Boston Assembled in General Town Meeting, Apprehending Their Character & Reputation greatly Affected by the Publication of two Letters in the Post Boy of the 13th Instant, Signed by Your Excellency dated at Castle William and directed to the Secretary of the Province, beg leave to lay this their Humble Representation of the Affair those Letters relate to so far as Respects this Town before Your Excellency.

It having been reported that the Town of Boston or the Inhabitants in general, had Abetted and Encouraged the Riotors who Insulted Your Excellency and the General Court, and who Committed many other heinous offences; the said Inhabitants as soon as they could do, Assembled in Town Meeting, and notwithstanding it Appeared that the Rights and privileges of the Town have been invaded by the unwarrantable Impress that has been made of several of their Inhabitants, Yet being always sensible that this was by no means sufficient to Justify the great disorders that were consequent thereupon, They unanimously pass'd such a Vote as Vindicated the Town from the charge made against them, and a Committee of the Town waited upon Your Excellency at the Castle with a Copy of the Vote, and You were pleas'd very favourably to Receive the same, and to Express Your Satisfaction therein; and as a further Proof of the desire of the Inhabitants to Remove all Pretence for this Imputation a greater Number of them Appeared in Arms to Attend Your Excellency on your Return to Town, than has been known in any Regimental Muster, for diverse Years past.

Notwithstanding which the Two Letters aforesaid wrote as Appears [**157.**] by the Dates, before the time of Passing this Vote

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and of the other proceedings of the Town, were more than three weeks after made Publick, and the Town as We Apprehend was thereby represented in a light very much to their Disadvantage, and altho the further Account of the Riot, and the proceedings thereupon as Published in the weekly News Letter of the Seventeenth Instant tends to clear up the Character and Reputation of the Town Yet as it must be presumed that these Letters were Published by Your Excellency's order, and the other Account does not appear to have been so, it cannot be conceived sufficient to Remove any Impressions which the Publishing of said Letters may have made against the Town.

Wherefore from a just concern that all the Actions of the Town may be fairly Represented and that the Character of the Town as loyal and Dutiful may always be preserved, the Inhabitants lay this State of their case before Your Excellency praying Your consideration of the same and that they may receive such Redress as that the Character of the Town may be made to appear to the world in a favourable light as if the Letters aforesaid had never been Published.

Boston Decem^{r} 29th 1747.

Thereupon it was unanimously Voted that the same be Accepted, & that said Committee immediately wait upon his Excellency with a fair Copy thereof and Report to the Town his Excellencys Answer which they accordingly did, and Reported that his Excellency was pleas'd to give the following Answer in writing Viz^{t}.

Gentlemen,

In Answer to Your Petition I must in the first Place say that I am sorry for the Occasion I had to write the two Letters to M^{r}. Secretary Willard, which You refer to.

As to the Publication of 'em since I find it has given a general Concern to the Town, I most readily take this Opportunity to Assure You that it did not in the least proceed from an inclination to prejudice the Carecter and Reputation of the Inhabitants, but was wholly occasioned by an insinuation in a late Pamphlet, which appeared to me to have a tendency to set part of my own Conduct upon that Occasion in a wrong light; and which I apprehended my Publication of those two Letters would Vindicate it from, and I can't but hope that my acquainting you that the Account of Your Proceedings on Fryday the 20th of November in a Town Meeting at Faneuil Hall and [**158.**] On the Day following, were Published by my directions in the weekly News Letter of the 17th. Instant, will be sufficient to Show that I had no desire to Represent the Behaviour of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, in a disadvantageous light and consequently remove all concern which may have occasioned by the publication of my Letters three days before, especially when I declare to yon that this Affair appears to me in a favourable light.

Boston Decem^{r}. 29. 1747. W. SHIRLEY.

After Reading the same It was unanimously Voted that his Excellencys Answer to said Petition is fully Satisfactory to the Town.

Also Voted that the Thanks of the Town be given to his Excellency for his Answer to their Petition, and that the Hon^{o}. James

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Allen Esqr. the Moderator of this Meeting, the above named Committee and the Selectmen of the Town be a Committee to wait upon his Excellency, and Return him the Thanks of the Town accordingly.

Then the Meeting was Dismiss'd.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly Qualified and lawfully Warned in Public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the fourteenth day of March, A.D. 1747.

Prayer being made by the Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Samuel Cooper.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting. Read.

Sundry Laws. Read.

The Inhabitants proceeded to the Choice of a Moderator (by a written Vote) and upon Collecting the Votes it Appeared that the Hon^{o}. Thomas Hutchinson Esqr. was chose.

Ezekiel Goldthwait was unanimously chose Town Clerk for the Year Ensuing & Sworn by the Hon^{o}. Edward Hutchinson Esqr.

[**159.**] Voted to proceed to the Choice of seven Selectmen, and the Votes being accordingly brought in, the Select Men declared there was 224 Voters but upon Sorting 'em there Appeared there was was 226 Votes for one Gentleman and 229 for another, it was thereupon determined by the Town that the choice was not legal and the Inhabitants agreed and Voted that this Meeting be Adjourn'd to three o'Clock in the Afternoon, then to proceed to the Choice of seven Select Men.

And the Meeting was Adjourn'd to that time accordingly.

Three o'Clock Afternoon, The Town mett according to Adjourment.

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for seven Selectmen and upon Sorting the same it Appeared that the following Gentlemen were Chose Viz^{t}.

Thomas Hancock Esqr.
M^{r}. Middlecott Cooke
John Steel Esqr.
Capt. William Salter
M^{r}. John Tyng
M^{r}. Samuel Grant
M^{r}. Thomas Hill

The following Gentlemen were chose overseers of the Poor for the Year ensuing Viz^{t}.

The Hon^{o}. Jacob Wendell Esqr.
William Tyler Esqr.
Col^{o}. John Hill
Thos. Hubbard Esqr.
Daniel Henchman Esqr.
M^{r}. Edward Bromfield
Col^{o}. William Downe
Andrew Oliver Esqr.
John Phillips Esqr.
M^{r}. Isaac Walker
M^{r}. Ebenezer Storer
M^{r}. John Barrett

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Upon a Motion made and seconded Voted that the Thanks of the Town [**160.**] be and hereby is given to Mr. Jeremiah Belknap for the Service done by him as one of the Select Men the Year past.

Voted that the Town enter upon the Consideration of that Article in the Warrant, to determine upon some effectual Method to prevent the Pernicious Practice of forestalling the Market and the exorbitant Demand of Country Butchers & others in the Price of Provisions & whether Faneuil Hall Market shall continue shutt up after the third Tuesday of March instant, to Morrow at Eleven o'Clock in the forenoon, —— Also Voted that the Town proceed to the Choice of a County Treasurer the same time.

The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for a Town Treasurer, and they being Collected and Sorted, it appeared that the Hon°. Joseph Wadsworth Esqr. was Chose by a great Majority, & Sworn.

Voted that the Town enter upon the Consideration of the Choice of Collectors tomorrow at ten o'Clock in the forenoon.

Messrs. Richard Buckley	Sworn	Assessors
Jacob Parker	Sworn	
Joshua Blanchard	Sworn	
Nathaniel Barber	Sworn	
William Fairfield	Sworn	
Capt. Daniel Pecker	Sworn	
Capt. John Goldthwait	Sworn	

were chose Assessors for the Year ensuing.

Voted that this Meetlng be Adjourn'd to Tomorrow, nine o'Clock in the forenoon.

Tuesday Morning, Nine o'Clock, Town being met according to Adjournment.

Messrs. Nathaniel Hodgdon	Sealers of Leather.
Josiah Carter	
John Allen	
James Dawson	
Thomas Hase	

were chose Sealers of Leather for the Year ensuing.

[**161.**] Messrs. William Moore		Fence Viewers.
William Russell	Sworn	
Benjamin Russell	Sworn	
James Tilestone	Sworn	
Onesiph—,, Tilestone	Sworn	
James Barnard		

Mr. John Gray, Surveyor of Hemp. Sworn.

Messrs. David Colson junr.	Sworn	Informers of Deer
Benjamin Harrod	Sworn	

Mr. Nathaniel Band was chosen Hayward for the Year ensuing.

The Selectmen, were chosen Surveyors of Highways, for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. William Hall	Pay	Hogreeves.
Joseph Treat	Sworn	
William Winter	Excus'd	
Thomas Lawlor	Sworn	
Holmes Simpson		

were chosen Hogreeves for the Year ensuing.

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Messrs. Isaac Fowle		Cullers of Staves.
Benjamin Ballard	Sworne	
Harvey Thomas	Sworne	
Benjamin Sault		
Joseph Dyer	Sworn	
Benjamin Barnard		
Peter Cotta		
Thomas Sergeant		
John Hobbs		
Joseph Savel jun^{r}.		
Sendall Williams	Excus'd	

were chosen Cullers of Staves for the Year ensuing.

John Phillips Esqr.	Firewards.
John Hill Esqr.	
Capt. John Carnes	
[162.] Capt. Isaac White	
Capt. Joseph Russell	
Capt. Henry Berry	
M^{r}. Joseph Jackson	
M^{r}. James Day	
M^{r}. Robert Breck	
M^{r}. John Scolley	

were chosen Firewards the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Isaac Vergoose	Viewers of Boards.—Shingles &C^{a}.
William Payne	
Edward Moberley	
James Barnard	
Thomas Warden	
Andrew Symms	
John Grant	
William Browne	
Josiah Waters	
William Nichols	

were chosen Viewers of Boards Shingles &C^{a}. for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Nathaniel Thayer	Excus'd.	Clerks of the Market.
Thomas Baxter	Excus'd.	
Timothy Newell	Sworn.	
Samuel Adams	Sworn.	
Benjamin Russell	Excus'd.	
Malachy Salter		
John Edwards	Sworn.	
Samuel Gerrish	Excus'd.	
Capt. Solomon Davis		
John Kneeland j^{r}.	Sworn	
Isaac Smith	Sworn.	
John Ridgaway	Sworn.	
Seth Coburne	Sworn.	
Daniel Marsh	Excus'd.	
John Dixwell	Sworn.	
Aaron Boardman	Sworn	
Oxenbridge Thacher j^{r}.	Sworn	

were chosen Clerks of the Market for the Year ensuing.

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[**163.**] The Town Entred upon the Consideration of the Choice of Collectors of Taxes distinct from Constables, and after some Debate thereon, —— Voted that the Town will not choose Collectors of Taxes distinct from Constables.

Upon a Motion made and seconded It was Voted that Collectors of Taxes be chose distinct from Constables the above Vote notwithstanding.

Voted that any Person chose into the Office of a constable for the Year Ensuing be Excused from serving provided he pay the sum of Twenty Pounds old tenor bills.

Messrs.	Thomas Cushing	Pay.	Constables.
	Nathaniel Wheelwright	Excus'd.	
	Samuel Gerrish	Pay'd in 1743.	
	John Dixwell	Excus'd.	
	Joseph Scott jun^{r}.	Pay.	
	Joshua Blanchard jun^{r}.	Pay.	
	William Dennie	Pay.	
	David Jenkins	Excus'd.	
	Timothy Newell	Excus'd.	
	Henry Johnson.	Pay.	
	James Perkins	Paid in 1743.	
	Thomas Boylestone Merch^{t}.	Pay.	

were Chosen Constables the Year ensuing.

The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for a County Treasurer, which being Collected were according to Law Sealed up by Constable Bell to be by him kept and Returned to the next Quarter Sessions for this County.

Messrs.	Thomas Johnson	Pay.	Constables.
	Nathaniel Proctor	Sworn.	
	William Lowder	Excus'd.	
	Thomas Ethridge	Sworn.	
	William Muckelroy	Sworn.	
	John Cotton	Excus'd.	

were Chosen Constables the Year ensuing.

Adjourn'd to 3 o'Clock in the Afternoon.

[**164.**] Three o'Clock, Afternoon, The Town being mett according to Adjournment.

The Petition of M^{r}. John Lovell Master of the South Grammer School praying for an Addition to his Salary, now came under Consideration, and after some Debate thereon, It was Voted that the sum of Two hundred Pounds old tenor bills, be Added to M^{r}. Lovels Salary to commence from the last Quarter, & Continue for one Year.

Also Voted that the sum of Two hundred Pounds old tenor bills be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury unto M^{r}. John Lovell in consideration of his extraordinary charge for two Years past.

The Petition of M^{r}. Peleg Wiswall, Master of the North Gram̃er School praying for an Addition to his Salary now came under consideration, and after some Debate thereon, It was. ——

Voted that the sum of Two hundred Pounds old tenor be

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Added to Mr. Wiswalls Salary to commence from the last Quarter and to continue for one year. And also that the Sum of Seventy pounds old tenor bills be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury unto Mr. Wiswall for Paying his House Rent for one Year.

Also Voted that the sum of Two hundred Pounds old tenor Bills be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury unto Mr. Peleg Wiswall, in consideration of his extraordinary Charge for two Years past.

The Town Entred into the consideration of that article in the Warrant Vizt. Whether Faneuil hall Market shall continue shutt up after the third Tuesday of March instant, and what is necessary to be further done for the better Regulation thereof, and also what method the Town shall take to prevent the pernicious Practice of forestalling the Market, & the exorbitant demand of Country Butchers and others in the Price of Provisions; and after some Debate thereon, It was Voted, that.

[165.] The Hon°. Andrew Oliver Esqr.
The Hon°. Samuel Welles Esqr.
Benjamin Faneuil Esqr.
Mr. Thomas Greene
The Hon°. Jacob Wendell Esqr.
Mr. Isaac Walker
Mr. Jacob Parker
Mr. Benjamin Pratt
} Committee.

be and hereby are Appointed a Committee to take the Premisses into Consideration & Report to the Town at the Adjournment of this Meeting what is best for the Town to do thereupon, Also Voted that Faneuil Hall Market continue Shut up until said Adjournment.

Voted that The Hon°. Samuel Welles Esqr.
Mr. John Smibert
Mr. Jonathan Williams &
Capt. William Salter
} Committee.

be and hereby are Appointed a Committee to consider what will be most for the Advantage of the Town to do with the Dirt in the Streets and Report thereon at the Adjournment of this Meeting.

Voted that the Money now lying in the Treasury receiv'd for Quit Rents be Added to the Towns Present Stock for Purchasing Grain, and also that such a further Sum be Rais'd and paid out of the Treasury as shall make said Stock, Three Thousand Pounds old tenor in the whole.

The Petition of the Minister, Church Wardens & Vestry of Kings Chappel in Boston, in behalf of themselves, and the Congregation that usually Attend the Publick Worship of God there, Setting forth that said Chappel which has been constantly Improved for the Public Worship of God for about Sixty Years past is in many parts of it Rotten and greatly decayed, and almost rendered unfit for that Service [166.] any longer, and said Congregation out of Regard to the Honour of God and for their own Edification being very desirous that the Publick worship of God should be still supported and carryed on in said Place have

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determin'd to Rebuild said Charg, and make it some what larger and more Commodious than it now is, but apprehend they shall be greatly Streightened for want of a little Ground at the East End of said Church that leads into the Burial place, the Pet^rs^. pray the Town will be pleas'd to Grant to said Church so much of their Land Eastward as will make the same Regular & Commodious, or if the Town think best, that they would Appoint a Committee to consider of this Petition, View the premisses & Report to the Town what is best to be done as to granting the Prayer thereof, was Read.—— And after some Debate thereon, It was Voted that the Honble. Andrew Oliver Esqr. Thomas Hancock Esqr. M^r^. Jeremiah Allen, M^r^. Middlecott Cooke, the Hon^o^. Jacob Wendell Esqr. M^r^. Thomas Greene, & M^r^. John Tyng be & hereby they are appointed a Committee to consider of said Petition, View the Premisses, Consider the Circumstances of the same and Report to the Town at the Adjournment of this Meeting whether it will be best for the Town to Grant the Prayer thereof.

Messrs. Joshua Blanchard, Daniel Pecker & William Fairfield a Committee appointed the first day of September last to Enquire of Samuel Bass & Kezia Harvey the most they will give for a Peice of Land they Petitioned the Town to Sell 'em in Water Street with a Shop and Buildings thereon, now Reported that they had met said Bass and Harvey & Conferr'd with 'em as to the consideration Money of said Land and they offer to give five hundred Pounds old tenor Bills for the same but the Town Apprehending that Sum to be much less than the Value of said Land, It was Moved & Voted that the Select Men be and they hereby are fully Authorized and Impowered to make Sale of said Land and Buildings thereon, or so much thereof as they Apprehend may be for the Convenience of the Town to such Person or Persons as will give most for the same the said Selectmen to give Public Notice of such Sale in the News papers a Suitable time before they shall dispose thereof and to give and pass a good & Sufficient [**167.**] Deed or Deeds in the Law for the same. ——

Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourn'd till tomorrow nine o'Clock in the forenoon.

Wednesday March 16th. 1747 Nine o'Clock in the forenoon, The Town being met according to Adjournment.

Messrs.	John Southack	Sworne	Constables.
	William Young	Excus'd	
	William Nichols	Sworne	
	Robert Ford	Sworne	
	John Symmes	Excus'd	
	Ellis Bennett	Excus'd	

were Chosen Constables the Year ensuing.

It was Moved That M^r^. Nichols a constable now chose, serv'd in that Office, the last Year, and it was doubted whether he could by Law serve again, and after some Debate thereon, It was Voted by the Town that they Apprehend it not to be against Law, for any person chosen into the Office of Constable to serve

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again within Seven Years provided such person consents to the same. ——

Messrs. Thomas Foster jun^r. . Sworn } Assay Masters.
David Cutler . . . . Sworn }

were chosen Assay Masters the Year ensuing.

The Selectmens Report on the Account of M^r. John Fenno Keeper of the Grainary for the Year past as Entred in his Book (and on File in the Town Clerks Office) Read & Voted that the said Report be Accepted, & accordingly that M^r. John Fenno be farther accountable to the Town for sixty two bushels Rye unsold at 33/ p Bushel, one hundred & two pounds six shillings, & Cash in his hands, Nine hundred & Sixty one pounds seven Shillings & four pence, amounting in the whole to One Thousand & Sixty three pounds thirteen Shillings & four pence old tenor, all which remains in his hands, exclusive of his Salary being One hundred pounds, & Thirty pounds, allowed him for Assistance, to the third instant ——

The Town brought in their Votes for a Committee to purchase Grain, & it appeared that.

[168.] Messrs. Robert Watt } A Com^tee for Purchasing Grain
Samuel Bridgham }
Joseph Jackson Hatter }

were chosen a Committee for Purchasing Grain the Year ensuing.

The said Committee are desired and impowered to give all needful direction to the keeper of the Granary respecting the Quantitys of Grain to be sold & setling the Price thereof from time to time as occasion shall require. ——

Also Voted that the said Committee be and hereby are fully impowered to borrow of any Gentlemen such Sum or Sums of Money as they shall want for the Purchasing of Grain when they Apprehend it for the Advantage of the Town until they receive it out of the Treasury the sum Voted at this Meeting to be Added to the Stock for Purchasing Grain, the said Committee not to borrow more than with what they already have shall exceed the Capital Stock of Three Thousand Pounds old tenor bills. ——

The Petition of Thomas Johnson praying for Liberty to Build a Shop on the North Side of Faneuil Hall Market was Read, and after some Debate thereon, A Question was put, whether the Prayer of the Petition be Granted and it pass'd in the Negative, and that the same be dismissed.

The Petition of William Daws praying for Liberty to Erect a Shop on the Towns land at the head of the Dock. —— was Read. —— and thereupon Voted that the Gentlemen the Select Men be and hereby are appointed a Com^tee. to consider of said Petition, View the Premisses, and Report what they Apprehend it will be best for the Town to do as to Granting the Prayer thereof.

Voted that Col^o. John Hill Capt. John Indicott and M^r. Joshua Blanchard be a committee to Enquire after some Suitable Peice of Ground at the South End for a Burial place and Report thereon at the Adjournment of this Meeting.

Voted that the Assessors be allowed to set upon Abatements of Taxes until the first day of June next and no longer.

It was Moved that the Assessors may have Liberty to sitt upon

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the Abatement of the Taxes of all such Persons as are at Sea or out of the Province and shall continue so till after the first of June next till some time in the month of November next, and thereupon it was Voted that the Assessors be allowed to sitt the last week in November next upon the [**169.**] Abatement of the Taxes of such persons accordingly.

Voted that the Town proceed to the Choice of Six Collectors of the Taxes for the Year ensuing.

Voted that no Person shall be now choose into said office that has heretofore Served in it, and has not paid to the several Treasurys the full Sum he was obliged to pay 'em and can produce their Receipts in full for the Year 1746.

Messrs.	Benjamin Edwards	Collectors of Taxes.
	William Larrabee	
	John Grant	
	John Ruddock	
	John Welch	
	Hopestill Foster	

Voted that nine pence on the pound be and hereby is allowed to be paid to the Collectors of Taxes for the Year ensuing on all such Sums as they shall Collect, provided they pay unto the Town Treasurer one half part of the whole Sum they shall be obliged to pay him within three months from the time they shall receive the Tax Books from the Assessors, and the other half part in three months, and also pay to the province and County Treasurers one half part of the whole sums they shall be obliged to pay 'em in Six months from the time they shall Receive said Books from the Assessors, and the other half part in Six Months after, and in Case either of said Collectors shall fail paying the said Treasurers in the above manner, the Collector so failing shall not be intitled to the aforesaid allowance of nine pence on the Pound for Collecting but wholly forfeit the same provided also that the said Collectors give Bond with Sufficient Suretys to the Satisfaction of the Selectmen for the faithful Discharge of their Duty in said Office. ——

The Petition of Samuel Hunstable praying an allowance may be made him for Ringing the Bell of the Meeting house at the westerly part of the Town at the Hours of nine and one o Clock for one Year, and five o'Clock for Six Months past was now considered of, and thereupon it was Voted that the Selectmen be and hereby are Impowered to make such an Allowance to said Samuel Hunstable [**170.**] for Ringing said Bell at the above hours as the other Bell Ringers of the Town have made 'em, Also Voted that said Bell be rung at the hours of five and Eleven o'Clock in the forenoon, and one and nine o'Clock in the afternoon, until the Town shall Order otherwise. ——

Messrs.	Augustus Hale	Sworn	Constables.
	John Clough jun^{r}.	Sworn	
	George Ray	Excus'd	
	William Wheeler	Sworn	
	Timothy Green	Excus'd	
	Benjamin Eustus jun^{r}.	Pay	

were chosen Constables the Year Ensuing.

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Voted that John Philips Esq^{rs}.
M^{r}. Thomas Green &
Col^{o}. John Hill
be a Committee to consider whether it will be for the Benefit of the Town to Sell a peice of Land near M^{r}. Alexander Hunts near Fort hill or in what manner Improve the same and Secure the Towns Interest at Windmill point and make Report of their doings at the Adjournment of this Meeting.

Voted that the Selectmen be desired to Repair the Towns Warehouses on the Dock Improved by M^{r}. Dennie and M^{r}. Gray and also Rebuild Swing Bridge in such form and place as they shall think most convenient and best.

Voted that Messrs. John Phillips Esqr.
M^{r}. Thomas Greene &
John Hill Esqr.
be a Committee to consider whether it will be for the Benefit of the Town [171.] to Sell a Quit Rent due on M^{r}. Frarys Lease of a peice of Land at the South part of the Town, or do any thing concerning the same and make Report thereon at the Adjournment of this Meeting.

Messrs. Abijah Adams	Excus'd.	Constables
Benjamin Andrews	Sworn.	
William Wait Wallis	Sworn.	

were chosen Constables the Year ensuing.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourned to Monday the 28th. Inst. at Nine o'Clock in the forenoon.

Monday March 28th. 1747. nine o'Clock in the forenoon the Town mett according to their Adjournment.

The Committee appointed the 14th. Instant to consider of the Petition of William Dawes for building a Shop at the head of the Dock now Reported that they had Viewed the premises and maturely considered of the Prayer of said Petition and Apprehend it will not be for the Benefit of the Town to Allow such a Shop or Building as is Petitioned for to be Erected on said Land the Persons in general that live thereabouts objecting to the same. —— Which was Read &

Voted that the said Report be Accepted, and that said Petition be Dismissed.

M^{r}. Thomas Edes was chosen Constable the Year ensuing.

The Committee appointed the 16th. Instant to enquire after some suitable Peice of Ground at the South end for a Burial place, Reported that they had considered of the premisses and were of opinion that a peice of Ground at the lower end of the common adjoyning to the pasture belonging to the Honble. James Allen Esqr. is a place the most convenient for a Burying Ground which being Read after some Debate thereon, It was Voted that said Report be Recommitted, and the said Committee are desired to cause a plan to be taken of the Land proposed by them for a Burial place, and also consider whether it will not be best and most convenient that a Highway should be laid out between said Land of M^{r}. Allen and

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the Common and they are desired to Report hereon at the next General Town Meeting.

[172.] The Committee appointed the 14th. Instant to Consider of the Petition of the Minister Church Wardens and Vestry of Kings Chappel in Boston, for Granting 'em a peice of Land to enlarge said Chappel, Reported, —— That they had met the Petrs. but done nothing thereon, they being desirous to withdraw their Petition, and several of the Petrs. being now present and moving that they may have Liberty to withdraw their Petition, It was Voted that they may have Liberty to with draw their Petition accordingly.

The Committee appointed the 14th. Inst. to consider whether it will be for the Benefit of the Town to Sell the Quit Rent due on Mr. Frarys Lease of a peice of Land at the South part of the Town, or do any thing concerning the same, Now Reported that they had met several times considered of the Premisses, and are of Opinion it will be most for the Benefit of the Town to dispose of said Land which being Read, after some Debate, It was Voted that the same be Recommitted and said Committee are desired to Enquire into the Towns Interest in said Lands or on either Side thereof, and take a plan of the same and Report to the Town their doings thereon at the General Town Meeting in May next.

The Committee appointed the 14th. Instant to consider what will be most for the Advantage of the Town to do with the Dirt in the Streets Reported that they Apprehended it would be proper for the Town to Impower the Selectmen to make Sale of the Dirt in the Streets either to some Person or Persons who will hire or Farm it by the Great or by the Load as the said Selectmen shall find best or most practicable previous notice being seasonably given of their intention in the weekly Prints, and to the End the Dirt may be the more Regularly and effectually Raked into heaps in the several parts of the Town, the Committee apprehend it will be very convenient to chuse Scavengers living in each respective Ward, and that they be under Oath to the faithful Discharge of their Trust, and that the heaps of Dirt Raked up be at the disposal of the Selectmen, except what is Raked up by the Abutters and laid on their own Land within Twenty four hours after its being Raked into heaps which being Read Voted that the Gentlemen [173.] Selectmen Act and proceed according to the same, Also ——

Voted that the Gentlemen the Representatives of the Town of Boston be desired to use their Endeavours that a Law be passed in the General Court obliging all persons that shall hereafter be chose Scavangers to be under Oath to the faithful discharge of their Duty in that place.

The Committee appointed the 14th. Inst. to consider whether it will be most for the Benefit of the Town to have Faneuil Hall Market continue Shutt up, or have it opened. —— and if opened what is necessary to be further done for the Regulation thereof, also what Method the Town shall take to prevent the pernicious practice of forestalling the Market and the exorbitant Demand of Country Butchers & others in the Price of Provisions now made Report in the words following Vizt.

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1st. That a Subscription be Offered to some of the principal Inhabitants of the Town in order to Raise a Sum not exceeding Ten Thousand Pounds old tenor to be put into the hands of the Selectmen by way of Loan for one Year without Interest and that they be Authorized to give Security to the Subscribers for the same.

2dly. That the Selectmen agree with a Number of Town Butchers for a Term not exceeding one Year, to purchase Cattle for the Supply of the Inhabitants to be sold in Faneuil Hall Market on three days of the week Vizt. Tuesdays Thursdays and Saturdays at such Prices as the Selectmen shall fix from time to time; said Market first to be Opened on Saturday the 2d. day of April next and that it be Recommended to the Inhabitants to Buy no Beef of the Country Butchers in the mean time, nor at any time after said market shall be opened.

3dly. That some meet person be appointed to Attend the Market constantly on Market day into whose hands the money raised as aforesaid shall be put in order to Pay for the Cattle purchased who shall likewise receive all money for Beef Hydes and Tallow sold in the Market and pay for all Cattle afterwards purchased for this Purpose which Person so Appointed shall give Security to the Selectmen for the money so received and be always accountable to them for the faithfull Discharge of their Trust.

4thly. That the Contracting Butchers be allowed five p Cent in the whole (to be Computed on the Sale of the Creatures) for Buying, Selling, Killing and Dressing the Creatures they finding all necessary help for the Business and Engaging to Sell no Beef during the Contract but in the market.

5thly. That the Tanners of the Town have the preference in purchasing the Hydes which shall be set at Reasonable Rates, they agreeing to Sell their Leather [**174.**] Proportionably. ——

6th. That the Selectmen agree with other Butchers to Supply the Market with small meat, and Advance suitable Sums of Money to them upon giving good Security for it (if the Sum Subscribed will Admit of it) and that the preference be given to Town Butchers or such as will Remove into Town and be Subject to the Regulations of the Selectmen, and that no other persons be admitted into the Market with Butchers Meat except of their own Raising which shall appear to the Satisfaction of the Clerk of the Market and that said Market be free and Open for all other Provisions brought in by such persons.

7thly. The Committee having been likewise appointed to consider of some method to prevent the Pernicious Practice of forestalling the Market, do herewith offer the form of a By Law which they Apprehend may have a good Tendency that way if the Town should see meet to pass the same.

But inasmuch as Doubts may arise which of the Laws respecting this matter are now in force, or respecting the construction of them the Committee are rather of Opinion, That all the Regulations necessary under our present Circumstances relating to Butchers, Hucksters forestalling Sale of Provisions, and concerning the market, should be Comprized in one Bill or Draft for a general By Law touching these things, and Repealing and Vacating all former

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By Laws Votes and Orders Relating to these things and that the same be Voted and passed by the Town, and upon Approbation thereof by the Sessions, that it be published in the Publick News papers,

All which is Submitted by

AND^s. OLIVER
in the Name of the Committee.

and the same being Read and a long Debate had thereon, ——

It was Voted that said Report be considered of Paragraph by Paragraph, and thereupon the first Paragraph being again Read, ——

It was Voted that the same be Accepted with this amendment only Viz^t. That a Subscription be Offered to some of the Principal Inhabitants of the Town in order to Raise a sum not exceeding Fifteen Thousand Pounds old tenor instead of Ten Thousand Pounds old tenor. ——

The Second Paragraph being Read,

Voted that the same be Accepted.

[175.] Then the Third Paragraph was Read —— and

Voted that the same be Accepted.

Then the fourth Paragraph, was Read —— and

Voted that the same be Accepted.

Then the fifth Paragraph was Read —— and

Voted that the same be Accepted, with this Amendment and Addition Viz^t. That the Leather-dressers of the Town have the preference in purchasing small Skins, which shall be set at Reasonable Rates they Selling their Leather proportionably.

Then the Sixth Paragraph. —— was Read —— and

Voted that the same be Accepted.

Then the seventh Paragraph was Read, and thereupon it was Voted that the said Committee be and they hereby are desired and impowered to prepare a Draft of a general By Law to be pass'd the Town therein particularly expressing every thing they shall apprehend to be necessary for the Regulation of Butchers, Hucksters, Forestallers, Sale of Provisions, and the Market, and make Report hereon at the General Town Meeting in May next.

Voted that the Selectmen be and they hereby are desired and Impowered to Appoint some Suitable person for the several Purposes mentioned in the third Paragraph he giving Security as is thereby required.

Voted that the Town proceed to the Choice of a Clerk for Faneuil Hall Market by a written Vote — And the Votes being brought in and Sorted it Appeared that M^r. Abijah Adams was chosen.

The Committee appointed the 14th. Inst. to consider whether they Apprehend it for the Benefit of the Town to Sell a Peice of Land near M^r. Alexander Hunts by Fort Hill, or in what manner Improve the same and also consider of the best Method for Securing the Towns Interest in their Land near Wind Mill Point so called in Boston, now Reported that they had Examined the Records Viewed the Lands above mentioned and got what Insight they could relating to said Lands and [176.] were of opinion, That a peice of Land of Eighty six foot upon the

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Sea Side, & about the same Breadth across the foot of Forthill between the Land formerly Granted to Mr. Gibbs (now in the Possession of Mr. Joseph Hubbard) and the Grant made to Major General John Leverett of Sixteen Rod long belongs to the Town, and that Mr. Alexander Hunt has built a House on the same, and said committee think it most for the Interest of the Town to get Possession of the premisses and then Sell the same. —— and they having been at Windmill Point and Examined the Records and neighbours do think it most for the Towns Interest to Build two Wharffs of Eight foot Square each, and have one of them fixed on the Towns Land next Mr. William Wheelers Land and the other on the Northeast part of the Point, in order to preserve their right which Report being Read, it was

Voted that, that part thereof which Relates to the Land on which said Alexander Hunt has Built a House be accepted, Also

Voted that the said Shem Drowne, Thomas Greene & Jacob Parker be and hereby are Appointed a Committee for and on behalf of the Town to prosecute in the Law any Person or Persons that now are in possession of said Land, or any part thereof, or that have made any Encroachments thereon, that so the Town may obtain possession of their said Lands and Dispose of 'em as they shall think best, on the other part of said Report relating to the Towns Lands near Windmill Point, Voted that the same be Referr'd over to the next General Town Meeting for consideration, and said Committee are desired then to lay before the Town all the Records and Papers that Relate to this Affair.

Voted that all Matters & things whatsoever that Relate to the Business of this Meeting & remain unfinished be Referr'd over to the next General Town Meeting to be then considered of & Acted upon.

Voted Unanimously that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby is given to the Honble. Thomas Hutchinson Esqr. the Moderator of this Meeting, for the great Dispatch he has given to the Business thereof.

Then the Meeting was Dismiss'd.

[177.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly Qualified and lawfully warned in Publick Town Meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the fourth day of April A.D. 1748.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting —— Read ——

Mr. Joseph Marion was chosen Moderator by a written Vote.

This Meeting being called to consider of the Petition of the Minister, Church wardens, & Vestry of Kings Chappel for granting 'em a peice of Land at the East end of said Chappel on part whereof the Latin School now stands in order to Enlarge the same, and of the proposals of said Petrs. for Purchasing a peice of Land & Erecting a New School house at their Expence in consideration of said Grant: — The Gentm. who Petitioned for this Meeting being present, desired the Town would not at this time proceed thereupon, but prayed they might have Liberty to withdraw their said Petition for the Grant of said Land &Ca. where-

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upon It was Voted that the Petitioners have Liberty to withdraw their said Petition, and they accordingly withdrew the same. ——

And then the Meeting was Dismissed.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly Qualified & lawfully warned in Publick Town Meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the Eleventh day of April A.D. 1748.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting, Read.

The Hon°. Thomas Hutchinson Esqr. was chosen Moderator of this Meeting (by a written Vote.)

The Affair mentioned in the warrant for Regulating Faneuil Hall Market was taken into consideration, and after some Debate thereon, It was Voted that the Selectmen be and they hereby are desired to Execute a Counterpart of the Contract made with the Butchers that have undertaken to purchase kill and Sell Cattle for the Supply of Faneuil Hall Market upon the Terms they have already agreed to do the same. ——

[178.] Also Voted that over and above the five p Cent allowed tne Butchers therefor, the Offel be allowed them tho the same is not mentioned in the Agreement they signed and give the Committee. Also

Voted that the Selectmen be desired to give Orders that Faneuil Hall Market be opened every Day in the week (Lords days excepted) the whole Forenoon, and such afternoons as they shall think necessary, besides Tuesdays Thursdays and Saturdays.

Voted that the consideration of the further Regulation of Faneuil Hall Market be referr'd to the next General Town Meeting.

The Petition of the Minister Wardens and Vestry of Kings Chapple in Boston in behalf of themselves and the Congregation that usually attend the Publick worship of God there, setting forth

That said Chapel which has constantly been Improved for the Publick worship of God for about Sixty Years past is in many Parts of it Rotten & greatly decayed. & almost rendered uncapable for that Service any longer, and said congregation out of Regard to the Honour of God and for their own Edification being very desirous that the Publick worship of God should be still Supported and Carried on in said Place, have determined to Rebuild said Church and make it some what larger more Comodious and Regular than it now is but apprehend they shall be greatly Straitned for want of Ground at the East End of said Church to Effect the same. —— Your Petitioners therefore pray the Town would be pleased to Grant to said Church 34 foot Eastward for the Body of said chapel and 10 foot for a Chancel in order to enlarge the same into a Regular and Commodious Building and whereas. the Town has a School house upon part of the Land which your Pet^rs. Request, It is therefore humbly proposed in consideration of the Grant hereby Request, That the Pet^rs. do Purchase and make over to the Town a Peice of Ground at the upper End of the Lane or Passage fronting the present School house of like Dimensions with the present, the said Petitioners not to dig or [179.] open

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any Ground which the Additional Building shall cover, excepting to lay the Foundation, nor at any time to exclude those who have vaults or Tombs within the requested Limits to have free access to them. ——

Your Pet^{rs}. apprehend that the said Grant will be no detriment to the Town as the present School house is much decayed in many parts defective, and will in a Short Space of time require to be New Built, and as the place now proposed for the School, neither has nor can possibly have any Contiguous Building being Eighty eight foot long, and Seventy seven foot wide, has a free Air, a pleasant Assent & Capable of a Southerly Highway to it from Bromfields Lane which if it be thought necessary the Petitioners have a reasonable Prospect of Obtaining, is very near to School Street, and yet agreeably Retired, The Town will have a larger Peice of Ground to Accommodate the School, The Chapel aforesaid and other Neighbouring houses will be less in danger from Fire and such accidents The Town Receive a New Ornament in the Buildings proposed, and all to be effected at the charge of the Petit^{rs}. and others such well disposed persons as shall think proper to contribute to the same, for a clearer View of what your Pet^{rs}. hereby Request we Refer to the Platts of the Ground and the Buildings annexed, Hoping the Town upon the considerations abovesaid will grant the said Petition. —— was Read, and after some Debate thereon. ——

It was Moved, Seconded & Voted that

The Honble. Andrew Oliver Esqr.
John Steel Esqr.
Thomas Hancock Esqr.
M^{r}. John Tyng
M^{r}. Edward Bromfield
John Fayerweather Esqr. &
M^{r}. Hugh Vans

be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to prepare the form of a Vote in answer to the said Petition with such Conditions and Reservations annexed to it as said Committee shall think necessary and proper and they are desired to Report hereon at the intended Adjournment of this Meeting.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourned to Monday the 18th. Inst. at nine o'Clock in the forenoon.

Monday 18th. April 1748. The Town Mett according to their Adjournment.

The Committee appointed the 11th. instant to prepare the form [**180.**] of a Vote, in answer to the Petition of the Wardens & Vestry of Kings Chapel, —— praying for a peice of Ground in order to Enlarge the Church, Reported that they had Maturely considered the Affair, and agreed to Offer the following Draft to the Town, Viz^{t}.

That the Selectmen be Impowered to make a legal Conveyance in behalf of the Town to the Petitioners of the several Peices of Land and of the Priviledge hereafter mentioned upon their first Complying with or Satisfying the Selectmen with Respect unto the

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Terms and Conditions herein Required of them Viz^{t}. a Peice of Land Fronting on School Street extending Thirty feet on said Street from the East end of Kings Chappel and includes the Passage way into the Burying Ground, and the westerly part of the School house and of the Yard thereto belonging measuring Thirty Seven feet back from the said Street together with the old School house and other Buildings belonging to it, being partly on the premisses and partly on the Towns Land Adjoyning to be Removed when the Town shall Require it at the Expence of the Pet^{rs}., Also a Strip of Land Thirty feet in Length and four feet wide extending from the Northeast Corner, of the old Chappel upon a Line with the North Side of said Chappel in order to Erect thereon part of the Walls of the proposed New Church, also another Strip of Land of said Wedth Adjoyning to and turning upon a Right Angle with the former, thence running until it meets the larger Peice herein first proposed to be granted saving a passage way of Six feet wide in the last mentioned Strip, thro the Walls of the New Church in some convenient Place between the Northeast Corner and the Chancel herein after mentioned which Entrance shall be at least Six feet high leading into a Peice of Burying Ground belonging to the Town which Peice measures twenty five feet North and South and twenty feet East & west, also another Peice of Land in form of half Oval Adjoyning Easterly upon the beforementioned proposed Grants and extending fifteen feet North, and as much South from the Middle of the Eastermost Line thereof, and to extend ten feet further East in its extreme distance from said Middle Point being for the proposed Chancel, provided there shall be Still left a Passage way of at least Eleven feet in the Narrowest part between said Chancel & M^{r}. Cookes Line into the Burying Ground; provided also that the Bodys of those who shall be known to lye in the said Strips of Land, or within the [**181.**] said half oval Peice shall be decently taken up and buryed in some other part of the Burying Ground with the consent of their Friends, and in such manner as they with the Selectmen shall agree to and direct or where no Friends shall appear they shall be Removed as they shall be removed as the said Selectmen shall direct at the charge of the Petitioners.

Also a priviledge to Extend their New Building over the aforesaid peice of Burying Ground lying to the Northward of the present School house and measuring 25 feet by 20 as before Expressed: provided they do not carry the floor of the Church or otherwise Incumber the same within eight feet of the Surface of the Earth as it now lyes, and that no Monuments or Grave Stones either within or without the Building be destroyed or if accidently broken in carrying on the work be repaired at the charge of the Petitioners: unless they shall agree with the Friends of those who may lye Buryed in said Peice of Ground, or where no Friends Appear with the Selectmen to Remove the Bodys in manner as is herein provided for the other Dead Body's before mentioned then and in such case that the Selectmen be Impowered likewise to convey to the Pet^{rs}. said Peice of Burying Ground and the Entrance into it herein before Reserved.

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That in consideration of the proposed Grants before mentioned the Petitioners shall procure and cause a legal Title to be made to the Town of a Certain Peice of Land over against the present Grammer School now in the Occupation of the Widow Green and others measuring 34½ feet or thereabouts on School Street and runing 97 feet back more or less, bounded on the West by Col°. Wendells Land, and Easterly on a passage way leading to the house where M^r. Guntor now dwells, together with the priviledge of said Passage way forever, saving to the Petitioners a Liberty of Removing if they see good the Buildings now upon said Land, when Required by the Selectmen, — said Petitioners likewise to Erect upon said Land a New School house of like Dimensions and accommodations with the present and finish the same in like decent manner to the Satisfaction of the Selectmen unless the Pet^rs. should propose a Sum of money to the Acceptance of the Town, instead of Erecting the said Building.

All which is humbly Submitted in the Name and by order of the Committee.

Boston 18th. April 1748. AND^R. OLIVER.

Which Report being Read and a long Debate had thereon, It was Moved and Seconded that the following Question may be put Viz^t. whether the Town have Power in this Meeting to Appropriate or Dispose of the Land on which the South Latin School stands to any other use than for a School, the Vote of the Town of the 14th. 1mo. 1655 as Entred in the Towns Records notwithstanding, and the same being accordingly put, —— It was Voted in the Affirmative. ——

And then on a Motion made and Seconded the following Question was put [182.] Viz^t. Whether the Town have power to Accept of the said Report of the Committee, the province Laws of the fourth William and Mary, Entitled an act for Regulating of Townships, choice of Town officers and setting forth their Power and the Twelfth of Queen Ann, Entitled an act directing how Meetings of proprietors of Lands lying in common may be called, which have been now Read notwithstanding, and it was Voted in the Affirmative. And then it was proposed & seconded, that the following Question may be put Viz^t. Whether the said Draft of a Vote as prepared by the Committee be Accepted, —— Whereupon, It was Moved that the Vote of Acceptance of said Draft may be Determined by a written Vote and that those persons that are for Accepting said Draft & passing it as the Vote of the Town be directed to write Yea, and those that are not for it write Nay and the Question being put, Whether it should be thus determined by a written Vote, . . . It passed in the Affirmative. —— And thereupon the Inhabitants were directed to bring in their Votes in writing, and such of 'em as were for Accepting of Said Draft of a Vote as prepared by the committee and passing the same as the Vote of the Town in Answer to said Petition were desired to write Yea, and such as were not for Accepting it to write Nay, And the Inhabitants proceeded to bring in their Votes, & when the Selectmen were Receiving 'em at the Door of the Hall they observed one of the Inhabitants Viz^t. John Pigeon

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to put in about a dozen with the word Yea wrote on all of 'em and being charged with so doing he acknowledged it, & was thereupon ordered by the Moderator to pay a Fine of Five Pounds for putting in more than one Vote according to Law, and the Moderator thereupon Declared to the Inhabitants that they must withdraw and bring in their Votes again in manner as before directed, and the Inhabitants accordingly withdrew, and the Votes being brought in and Sorted it appeared that there was Four hundred and two Voters and that there was.

Two hundred and five . . . . . Yeas &
One hundred & Ninety seven . . . . . Nays

Whereupon, it was declared by the Moderator, that the said Form of a Vote was Accepted and Passed by the Town accordingly.

Then the Meeting was Dismissed.

[**183.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly Qualified and lawfully warned in Public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Tuesday the tenth day of May A.D. 1748.

Prayer was made by the Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Samuel Checkley jun^{r}.

The Precept and Warrant for calling the Meeting. Read.

Sundry Laws, Read.

Thomas Hancock Esqr. one the Selectmen in their name proposed to the Inhabitants Assembled to proceed to the Choice of a Person or persons to Serve for and Represent 'em in a Great and General Court or Assembly to be held at Boston upon Wednesday the Twenty fifth day of May instant, and in order thereto to consider and ascertain the Number of Gentlemen to be Elected, accordingly It was Voted to proceed to the Choice of four Representatives and it was Declared that the Poll be closed at twelve o'Clock.

The Votes being Collected, the Number of Voters were found to be 723, and upon Sorting the Votes it appeared that the following Gent^{n}. were chose. Viz^{t}.

The Honble. Thomas Hutchinson Esqr. . .	N^{o}. of Voters	406.
The Honble. James Allen Esqr.		389.
Thomas Hubbard Esqr.		704.
M^{r}. John Tyng		369.

The Election of Representatives being over, and the same being Declared by the Selectmen.

The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for a Moderator and upon Sorting the same it appeared that the Honble. Thomas Hutchinson Esqr. was chosen.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourned to three a Clock, Afternoon.

Tuesday, 3 o'Clock in the Afternoon, The Town met according to their Adjournment.

[**184.**] The Report of the Selectmen on the Visitation of the Publick Schools. Read and is as follows Viz^{t}.

To the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston in Town Meeting Assembled May 10. 1748.

Pursuant to a Vote of the Town of Boston at their Meeting the 12th. of May last, desiring the Selectmen to Visit the several Pub-

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lick Schools in the Town, and Invite such Gentlemen to Accompany them therein as they should think proper, and to Report thereon.

We the Subscribers accordingly Attended that Service on Friday the Nineteenth of June last, accompanied by the following Gent^{n}. Viz^{t}.

The Hon^{o}. Joseph Wadsworth Esqr.	The Gent^{n} the Representatives of the Town of Boston.
The Hon^{o}. John Jeffries Esqr.	
The Hon^{o}. Jacob Wendell Esqr.	
The Hon^{o}. Samuel Welles Esqr.	The Rev^{d}. D^{r}. Joseph Sewall
Edward Winslow Esqr.	M^{r}. Samuel Checkley
George Cradock Esqr.	M^{r}. William Welsteed
John Fayerweather Esqr.	M^{r}. Samuel Mather
Jonas Clarke Esqr.	M^{r}. Middlecott Cooke
John Hill Esqr.	Capt. Henry Atkins
Thomas Hancock Esqr.	M^{r}. Rufus Greene
John Phillips Esqr.	M^{r}. Isaac Walker
	M^{r}. Eben^{r}. Storer

And found the South Grammer School wherein were 110 Scholars in very good Order, the South writing School in the Common wherein were 265 Scholars in like good order, the writing School in Queen Street wherein were 62 Scholars in very good order, the North Grammar School of 40 Scholars in good order, & the North writing School wherein were 271 Scholars in very good Order.

THOMAS HANCOCK
JOHN STEEL
W^{M}. SALTER
JOHN TYNG
SAM GRANT.

[185.] Voted that Report be Accepted, and that the Gentlemen the Selectmen be desired to Visit the publick Schools the Year ensuing, and that they desire such Gentlemen to Accompany them therein as they shall think convenient and that they Report thereon.

Messrs. Joseph Belknap
Nathaniel Gardner
Knight Leverett
Joshua Pickman j^{r}.
John Maverick
Benjamin Frothingham
John Colson
David Evans Excused
John Taylor
Michael Dennis
Gillam Phillips Esqr.
Benj^{a}. Harrod
James Hill
} Scavengers.

were chosen Scavengers the Year Ensuing.

The Petition of M^{r}. Zachariah Hicks master of the North writing School Praying for an Addition to his Salary now came under consideration and after some Debate thereon, It was Voted that the

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Sum of Two hundred and Twenty pounds old tenor be Added to Mr. Hicks Salary for one Year to commence from the last Quarter.

The Petition of Mr. John Proctor jun^r. Usher of the North writing School, praying for an Addition to his Salary now came under consideration and after some Debate thereon It was Voted that the Sum of One hundred and fifty Pounds old tenor be Added to Mr. Proctors Salary for one Year to Commence from the last Quarter.

The Request of the Committee of the Proprietors of the long Wharffe or Pier at the lower end of King Street that the Breast work lately Erected at the End of said Wharffe may be Removed was taken into consideration, and after some Debate thereon, It was Moved and Seconded that the following Question may be put Viz^t. Whether the Prayer of the Petition be Granted and it being accordingly put, It was Voted in the Negative and [**186.**] then Voted that the Petition be Dismissed.

The Gentlemen the Overseers of the Poor prayed the following Articles containing Alterations and Additions to the orders and By Laws now in Force for Regulating and Governing the Work house may be considered and approved of by the Town, which being Read are as follows Viz^t.

1st. That the General Meeting for Overseers of the Poor at the Work house to Inspect the Affairs of the House and Advise about such further Rules and Methods as may be for the Advantage of said House which Meeting is now fixed to the third Tuesday be chang'd to the first Wednesday of each month and accordingly held on said Day at four of the Afternoon.

2. That instead of the Committee of three to take the more immediate inspection of the House for each month as the Law now stands; there shall hereafter be appointed by the overseers at their monthly meeting so many of their Number for a committee as shall correspond with the Number of weeks that may happen until the next monthly meeting, two of whom shall be a Quorum & meet on every Wednesday except the day of the monthly meeting for Advising and Assisting the master in the Affairs of the House: and one of said Overseers shall have the more immediate Oversight of the House for one Week who shall Endeavour to Obtain some Suitable person to preach on the Lords day in like manner as has been usual for some Years past and shall Visit the House as often as may be, at least three times in each Week for inspecting the management of it & the behaviour of the persons in it, But in important cases the Committee for the month or if need be the Body of Overseers shall be called together to Advise thereupon. ——

3dly. That the Overseers at their monthly meeting or the Committee of Overseers be further Impowered to Punish such Persons as shall be legally Committed to the House and who shall threaten or attempt to make their Escape therefrom, or such as having Escaped shall be again so committed by fixing a Wooden Clog with an Iron Chain to one of the Legs of such Offenders. ——

And after the same was Read a Question was put "Whether

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[187.] the Town do Approve and Accept of said three articles for the better Regulating of the work house. ——And it passed in the affirmative. —Also

Voted that the Overseers of the Poor be and hereby are desired to proceed to Regulate and Govern the work house accordingly until the Town shall order otherwise.

The Petition of Thomas Fleet praying the Town to Sell or Lease to him for a term not less than fourteen Years, a small Peice of Land in Water Street at the Rear of the Estate of the late Jonathan Furnass decēd, it being at present wholly unimprov'd and of no use to the Town; was now taken into consideration & after some Debate thereon; It was Voted that the Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to consider of this Petition & Report at the next General Town Meeting what they apprehend the Town had best do thereon.

The Town entred upon the consideration of the Petition of several Freeholders that the Town would reconsider their Votes Pass'd the 18th. of April last; Relating to the Acceptance of the Report of a Committee then made for granting a Peice of Land to the Minister Church Wardens & Vestry of Kings Chappel: and after a long Debate thereon the following. Question was put Vizt.

Whether the Town will Sustain the said Petition, and it pass'd in the negative by a great majority.

The Petition of Joseph White, & Benjamin Edwards, Collectors of Taxes within this Town setting forth that they being Collectors of Taxes in the Years 1744, 1745, & 1746, had committed to 'em by the Assessors of said Town, the Taxes of sundry Persons to Collect that were abroad at Sea at the time when they receiv'd the Books of the Assessors, many of whom the Petrs. never saw, they not having return'd since, and others of the Inhabitants have died so extremely Poor, that the Petrs. notwithstanding all their Care & Pains could not get in their Taxes, & as it is not now in the Power of the Assessors to make 'em any Abatements, the Petitioners, therefore pray that a Committee may be appointed to enquire & make Report of all such Taxes as they in Justice apprehend the Petrs. ought to be abated in those Years: was Read & thereupon It was Voted that the present Assessors of the Town be & hereby they are appointed a Committee to Consider of this [188.] Petition hear the Petitioners thereupon, and Report what Taxes they apprehend ought to be abated the Petitioners.

Mr. Treasurer Wadsworth presented an Estimate of what may be proper for the Town to raise for defraying the Charges of the Ensuing Year.

Voted a Grant of Twenty seven Thousand Pounds old tenour Bills, to be Rais'd by a Tax upon the Polls & Estates within the Town of Boston for Relief of the Poor and defraying other necessary charges arising within and for said Town the Year ensuing.

Voted that, John Wheelwright Esqr.
Joshua Winslow Esqr.
Mr. Ebenezer Holmes
Mr. Thomas Greene &
Mr. William Coffin

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be a Committee to Audit the Town Treasurers Accounts for the Year ensuing and make Report as usual And that they also Audit the Accounts of the Overseers of the Poor respecting the Almshouse & the Workhouse, and to attend the same at the usual place of said Overseers Meeting, and said Acco^{ts}. being Audited the said Committee are desired to make Report thereon as usual.

Voted that Col^{o}. John Hill
M^{r}. Thomas Greene &
M^{r}. William Coffin
be and hereby they are appointed a Committee to Consider of the best Method the Town can take to supply themselves with Fuel & Report hereon as soon as may be.

The Committee appointed the 28th. of March last to prepare a plan of the Peice of Land they propos'd for a Burial place now made a Report of their doings thereon, and the same was Read and is as follows Viz^{t}.

We the Subscribers agreeable to the desire of the [189.] Town have Caus'd a plan to be taken of the Land propos'd for a Burial place, which is herewith presented, said Land being bounded Easterly on that part of the Common called the mall there measuring ninety feet & ten feet more on said mall for an highway, Southerly on the heirs of the Hon^{o}. Col^{o}. Fitch there measuring Four hundred & Eight feet, Westerly on the Common One hundred & fifty eight feet, Northerly on said Common Three hundred & ninety Six feet & an half. and we apprehend it will be much best for an highway to be lay'd out between said propos'd Burial place & the land of the heirs of said Fitch, provided said heirs will allow ten feet more in wedth for said highway, the whole length thereof the ten feet of the Towns Land above mentioned being reserv'd for to make said Highway Twenty feet wide. Witness our hands may 9, 1748.

JOHN INDICOTT
JOHN HILL
JOSHUA BLANCHARD

and after some Debate thereon, It was Voted that the said Report be not Accepted.

The Committee appointed the 28th. of March last to prepare the Records & Papers that relate to the Towns Interest near Wind mill Point, Reported that they had procur'd Copy's of all the Records & papers that they could find relating to the Towns Interest near Windmill Point, & now present them to the Town for their consideration and after some Debate thereon, Voted that said Report be further Referr'd over to the next General Town Meeting.

Voted that all matters & Things that remain unfinished be referred over to the next General Town Meeting, to be considered of & acted upon.

Then the Meeting was Dismiss'd.

[190.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualify'd and lawfully Warned

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in Public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the Twenty first day of September A.D. 1748.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting. Read.

Sundry Laws, Read.

The Honble Thomas Hutchinson Esqr. was chosen Moderator by a written Vote.

The Town proceeded upon the Business of the Meeting mention'd in the Warrant Viz^t^. to consider what they will further do as to the Regulation of Faneuil Hall Market and after some Debate thereon, It was Moved & Seconded, That the following Question might be put Viz^t^. Whether the Town would continue to supply Faneuil Hall Market with Provisions as heretofore, and the same being put it pass'd in the Affirmative by a great Majority.

And then the Meeting was Dismiss'd.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualify'd & lawfully warn'd in Public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the twenty sixth day of December 1748.

The Precept & Warrant for calling the Meeting, Read.

Prayer being made by the Rev^d^. M^r^. Ellis Gray.

Sundry Laws, Read.

Thomas Hancock Esqr. one of the Selectmen in their Name propos'd to the Inhabitants Assembled [**191.**] Whether they would proceed to the Choice of a person to serve for and Represent them in the Great & General Court in their Session & Sessions the present Year in the Room of James Allen Esqr. who for his contempt of the orders of the Hon^o^. House of Representatives is Expelled that House, and thereupon, It was Voted to proceed to the choice of a Representative accordingly, and it was declar'd by the Selectmen that the Poll Sho'd be clos'd at twelve o'Clock.

The Votes being Collected the number of Voters were found to be 473, and upon sorting 'em it appear'd that James Allen Esqr. was chose, having 346 Votes.

The Election of a Representative being over, and the same declar'd by the Selectmen.

The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for a Moderator and upon sorting 'em it appear'd that the Hon^o^. James Allen Esqr. was unanimously chosen.

The Town brought in their Votes for a Collector of Taxes in the Room of M^r^. John Welch who Refuses to Serve and upon sorting 'em it appear'd that M^r^. John Staniford was chose by a great Majority.

Upon a Motion made & seconded, It was Voted that the Thanks of the Town be & hereby is given to the Hon^o^. James Allen Esqr. the Moderator of this Meeting for dispatching the Business thereof.

Then the Meeting was Dismiss'd.

[**192.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and lawfully Warned in public

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Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the thirteenth day of March A.D. 1748.

Prayer being made by the Rev^{d}. D^{r}. Joseph Sewall.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting, Read.

Sundry Laws, Read.

The Inhabitants proceeded to the choice of a Moderator (by a written Vote) and upon Collecting the Votes it appeared that the Honble. James Allen Esqr was chosen.

Ezekiel Goldthwait was chosen Town Clerk for the Year Ensuing, and sworne to the faithful Discharge of his Duty in that Office by the Honble. Edwd. Hutchinson Esqr.

Voted that the Town proceed to the choice of Seven Selectmen, and the Votes being accordingly brought in and sorted, it appeared that only Six were chose Viz^{t}.

Thomas Hancock Esqr.	Select-Men.
M^{r}. Middlecott Cooke	
John Steel Esqr.	
Capt. William Salter	
M^{r}. Samuel Grant &	
M^{r}. Thomas Hill	

then the Inhabitants withdrew and brought in their Votes, but upon Sorting 'em it appeared that there was no choice, Whereupon they withdrew again and brought in their Votes and upon Sorting 'em it appeared that

M^{r}. John Gardner was chose

Upon a Motion made and Seconded, It was

Voted that the Thanks of the Town be and [**193.**] hereby is given to M^{r}. John Tyng who served as a Selectman the last Year, for his faithful Discharge of that Trust.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourned to three o'Clock, in the Afternoon.

Three o'Clock in the Afternoon, the Town met according to Adjournment.

Voted to proceed to the choice of twelve constables distinct from the Collectors of Taxes.

Upon a Motion made and seconded It was Voted that any Person chose into the Office of a constable for the Year ensuing shall be excused from serving provided he Pay to the Town Treasurer the sum of Twenty Pounds old tenour Bills.

Messrs. James Gridley	Sworne
Willliam Blair Townsend	Pay
William Nichols	Sworne
Augustus Hail	Sworne
Joseph Belknap	Paid in 1746.
John Southack	Sworne
Benjamin Hammet	Excused
George Featherstone	Sworne
Timothy Newell	Excused
William Pitman	Pay
Stephen Whiting	Pay
John West	Pay

were chosen Constables for the Year Ensuing.

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The following Gentlemen were chose Overseers of the Poor for the Year Ensuing Viz^{t}.

The Honble. Jacob Wendell Esqr.
Andrew Oliver Esqr.
William Tyler Esqr.
John Hill Esqr.
Thomas Hubbard Esqr.
M^{r}. Edward Bromfield
[194.] Daniel Henchman Esqr.
William Downe Esqr.
John Phillips Esqr.
M^{r}. Isaac Walker
M^{r}. Ebenezer Storer
M^{r}. John Barrett
} Overseers of the Poor.

were chose Overseers of the Poor for the Year Ensuing.

Voted that the Town proceed to the choice of a Town Treasurer, and upon bringing in and Sorting the Votes, It appeared that the Hon^{oble}. Joseph Wadsworth Esqr. was chose by a very great Majority and Sworne into that Office by John Steel Esqr.

The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for a County Treasurer, which being Collected were according to Law Sealed up by constable Featherstone, to be by him returned to the next court of Quarter Sessions.

The Town proceeded to consider what is best to be done with their Lands and Buildings at the head of the Dock formerly Leased to M^{r}. John Dolbeare (now deceased) and Thomas Hubbard Esqr. their Term therein being Expired as mentioned in the Warrant, and it appearing by Papers produced by M^{r}. Benjamin Dolbeare son of the aforesaid M^{r}. John Dolbeare that his Fathers Term in the Buildings & Lands Leased him is not yet Expired that Article in the Warrant so far as it relates to him was Dismissed, then

Voted that the Selectmen be and hereby are desired to consider what is best for the Town to do with their Buildings and Land in Possession of Thomas Hubbard Esqr. and Report at their Meeting in May next.

Voted that the Town proceed to the choice of Seven Assessors, accordingly the Votes were brought in, and upon sorting them it appeared that

[195.] Messrs. Nathaniel Barber
Jacob Parker
William Fairfield
John Goldthwait
Daniel Pecker
Joseph Fitch
Thomas Foster
} Assessors.

were chosen.

Voted that the Affair of Faneuil Hall Market be taken into consideration tomorrow at Eleven o'Clock.

Voted that the sum of nine Pence on the Pound be and hereby is allowed to be paid to the collectors of Taxes for the Year ensuing for all such Sums as they shall collect, provided they Pay unto the Town Treasurer one half part of the whole sum they are

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obliged to Pay him within three months from the time of recieving the Tax Books from the Assessors and the other half part of the whole sum they are obliged to pay him within three months from the time of Recieving the Tax Books from the Assessors, and the other half part in three months after, and also Pay to the Province and County Treasurers, one half part of the whole Sums they shall be obliged to pay them respectively in Six months from the time they recieve the Books from the Assessors as aforesaid, and the other half part in six months after, and in case either of the Collectors shall fail Paying the said Treasurers in the above manner the Collector so failing shall not be intitled to the aforesaid Allowance of nine pence on the pound for Collecting, but wholly forfeit the same, provided also that the said Collectors give Bond with sufficient Suretys to the Satisfaction of the Selectmen for the faithful Discharge of their Duty in said Office, and complying with this Vote.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourned till to Morrow Morning 9 o'Clock.

Tuesday March 14th. 1748, nine o'Clock, The Town met according to Adjournment.

[196.] Mr. John Gray was chosen Surveyor of Hemp for the Year Ensuing & Sworn.

Messrs.	David Colson junr.		Informers of Deer.
	Benjamin Harrod	Sworn	

were chosen Informers of Deer for the Year ensuing.

Mr. Nathaniel Band, was chosen Hayward for the Year Ensuing.

The Selectmen were Chosen Surveyors of Highways for the Year Ensuing.

Messrs.	Isaac Vergoose	Sworn	Viewers of Boards, Shingles &Ca.
	William Pain	Sworn	
	John Grant	Sworn	
	Thomas Warden	Sworn	
	Andrew Symmes	Sworn	
	Edward Moberly		
	William Brown	Sworn	
	John Eustus	Excus'd	
	Moses Eayres	Sworn	
	Edward Edes	Excus'd	

were chose Viewers of Boards, Shingles &Ca.

Messrs.	William More	Sworn	Fence Viewers.
	William Russell	Sworn	
	Benjamin Russell	Sworn	
	James Tilestone	Sworn	
	Onesiphorus Tilestone	Sworn	
	John Indicott	Sworn	

were chosen Fence Viewers, for the Year Ensuing.

Messrs.	Nathaniel Hodgdon	Sworn.	Sealers of Leather.
	Josiah Carter	Sworn.	
	John Allen	Sworn	
	Thomas Hase		
	Thomas Hartley	Sworn	

were chosen Sealers of Leather for the Year Ensuing.

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[197.] Messrs. Harvey Thomas Sworn
Benjamin Ballard Sworn
Joseph Dyar
Benjamin Sault
John Hobbs
Peter Cotta
Thomas Serjeant
Joseph Savel jun^r. Sworn
Edward Potter Excused
Edward Cowell
} Cullers of Staves.

were chosen Cullers of Staves for the Year Ensuing.

Messrs. William Scott Sworn
Samuel Green Sworn
Benjamin Renkin Sworn
Samuel Emmes
} Hogreeves.

were chosen Hogreeves for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Joseph Edwards William Cowell
Jonathan Payson Stephen Apthorp
John Ridgaway Ellis Wilson
Thomas Greenough Timothy Winship
Benjamin Hammet Thomas Boucher
Joseph Gardner Ebenezer Lowell
} Scavengers.

were chosen Scavengers for the Year Ensuing.

Messrs. Joseph Jackson
Thomas Savage
Thomas Greene
} Purchasers of Grain.

were chosen purchasers of Grain, for the Year Ensuing.

The said Committee are desired and Impowered to give all needful Directions to the Keeper of the Granary [198.] respecting the quantities of Grain to be sold, and setting the price thereof from time to time as occasion shall require.

Messrs. Thomas Foster jun^r.
David Cutler
} Assay Masters.

were chosen Assay Masters for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Elisha Dyre Excus'd.
Thomas Newman Sworn
Alexander Hill Sworn
Timothy Newell Sworn
Thomas Cushing Sworn
Oxenbridge Thatcher jun^r. Sworn
Samuel Adams Sworn
John Edwards
Samuel Edwards Sworn
Royal Tyler Excus'd
John Ridgaway Sworn
Daniel Marsh Sworn
John Dixwell Sworn
Thomas Jackson jun^r. Sworn
} Clerks of the Market

were chosen Clerks of the Market for the Year Ensuing.

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Messrs.	David Wheeler	Sworn	Constables.
	John Langdon	Pay	
	Thomas Palfrey	Sworn	
	William Lowder	Excus'd	
	Robert Ford	Sworn	
	William Thwing	Excus'd	

were chosen Constables for the Year Ensuing.

Messrs.	Thomas Greene	Committee for Auditing Acco^{ts}.
	Thomas Oxnard	
	Jeremiah Allen	
	Harrison Gray	
	Joshua Winslow Esqr.	

be a Committee to Audit the Town Treasurers Accompts for the Year Ensuing and make Report as usual, and that they also Audit the Accompts [199.] of the Overseers of the Poor respecting the Workhouse, and to attend the same at the usual place of said Overseers Meeting, and said Accompt being Audited the said Committee are desired to make Report thereon as usual.

John Phillips Esqr.	Firewards.
John Hill Esqr.	
Capt. John Carnes	
Capt. Isaac White	
Capt. Joseph Russell	
Capt. Henry Berry	
Capt. Joseph Jackson	
Capt. James Day	
M^{r}. Robert Breck	
M^{r}. John Scollay	

were chosen Firewards for the Year Ensuing.

Voted that the Assessors be, and they hereby are allowed to sit upon the Abatement of Taxes to the first day of June next, saving that they have Liberty to sit the second Week in November next, to Abate the Taxes of such persons as shall appear to be dead or out of Town, and could not have made application to them therefor before the said first day of June.

The Town Enter'd upon the consideration of that article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. What method is best to be taken to Improve their Lands & Salt Ponds on the neck and after some Debate thereon It was Voted that the Selectmen be and hereby are desired and Impowered to Advertize the Leasing of said Lands, recieve proposals concerning the same, and Report their Doings herein at the Town Meeting in May next.

Voted that the Selectmen be, and hereby they are Impowered to fix the Stalls at the Fish Market near Scarlets Wharffe in such places as they think proper, provided the Town be at no Expence in doing the same.

Voted that the Sum of One Thousand Pounds in [200.] Bills of the old tenor be and hereby is allowed unto Jeremiah Allen Esqr. in full for his Paying the Towns Moneys for the Cattle purchased for the supply of Faneuil Hall Market, recieving the Money for Beef Hydes, & Tallow, sold in said Market, and his attendance there on Market days, and other Services by him done

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at said Market since the 28th. of March last, he Paying such Persons as he has employed to Assist him therein.

The Question was put, Whether the Town will continue to Supply Faneuil Hall Market in the same manner as they did the last Year.

Voted in the Negative.

Voted that the Gentlemen who lent the Town Money for the Supply of Faneuil Hall Market with Provisions the last Year, be allowed Interest for the same after the 30th. Instant until they are paid, and the Selectmen are desired to give them Drafts on the Treasury payable to them or their order for such sums as are due to them respectively when they recieve such Draft.

Voted that Faneuil Hall Market be continued an Open Market under the Regulation of the Selectmen for the time being, until the Town shall otherwise Order.

A Motion was made and seconded that the Town would proceed to the choice of Tything men for the Year Ensuing, but nothing done thereon.

The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for the choice of a Clerk for Faneuil Hall Market & upon Collecting the same it appeared that Mr. Abijah Adams was chose.

The Selectmens Report on the Accompt of Mr. John Fenno Keeper of the Granary for the Year past as Entered in his Book (and on file in [201.] the Town Clerks Office) Read and Voted that the said Report be Accepted and accordingly that Mr. John Fenno be further accountable to the Town for two hundred Eighty three Bushels & an half of Indian Corn at 23/ p Bushel being £396 .. 18 . 0 & eight bushels of Wheat at 60/ p bush. being £24 .. . . . . and for Cash Two Thousand one hundred & fifty six pounds and nine pence, the whole of which amounts to Two Thousand five hundred and Seventy six pounds, eighteen shillings & nine pence, old tenor bills, which is now in his hands, exclusive of One hundred pounds for his Salary, and Thirty pounds for Assistance, both which sums are allowed him in his Accompt.

Voted that the sum of Fifty Pounds bills of the old tenor be allowed and paid out of the Treasury unto Mr. John Fenno Keeper of the Granary for his Extraordinary services at the Year past, and also that the further Sum of Twenty Pounds old tenour Bills be paid him for hiring persons to Assist him in that Business.

The Petition of Mr. John Fenno Keeper of the Granary Praying for an Addition to his Yearly Salary was Read, and after some Debate thereon.

Voted that the same be continued to the Town Meeting in May next.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourned to three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Tuesday three o'Clock in the Afternoon, The Town being Assembled according to Adjournment.

Messrs. Thomas Allen	Pay	Constables.
John Amelee	Excus'd	
Benjamin Gyles	Excus'd	
Capt. Isaac Freeman	Appeal to Sessions	

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Voted that no Person be chose as a Collector of Taxes for the Year ensuing that has been heretofore chose into that Office and Served unless he can produce Reciepts in full from the respective Treasurers of the Town, County, and Province that he has [**202.**] Paid the whole sums due to them for the Year 1747.

Voted that the Town proceed to the choice of Six Collectors of Taxes for the Year Ensuing, and the Votes being brought in, it Appeared that

Joseph White Esqr. Capt. Benj^{a}. Edwards M^{r}. William Larrabee M^{r}. John Ruddock M^{r}. John Grant M^{r}. Hopestill Foster	Collectors.

were chose by a great Majority.

Messrs. William Muckleroy	Sworn	Constables.
John Clough	Sworn	

were chosen Constables for the Year Ensuing.

The Assessors appointed a Committee the tenth day of May last to consider of the Petition of Joseph White, Benjamin Edwards, and Andrew Cunningham late Collectors of Taxes in this Town praying for an Abatement of sundry Taxes committed to them to Collect; Reported that they had attended that Service heard the Petitioners and Enquired into the circumstances of several Persons (a List of whose Names are on file & the Years they were Taxed) whose Taxes they Apprehend ought in Justice to be Abated, the Petitioners, said Names being Read over, after a short Debate thereon, Voted that said Report be Accepted, and that the sum of Seventy eight pounds Eleven shillings bills of the old tenour be allowed and Refunded out of the Town Treasury unto Joseph White Esqr. — the sum of Fifty five Pounds two shillings bills of the old tenour be allowed and Refunded out of the Town Treasury unto M^{r}. Andrew Cunningham, and the sum of ninety six pounds five shillings and nine pence Bills of the old tenour be allowed and refunded out of the Town Treasury unto M^{r}. Benjamin Edwards, and the Selectmen are desired to give them Drafts for the same.

[**203.**] Voted that all matters and Things that remain unfinished be continued to the Town Meeting in May next, to be then Acted upon.

Voted that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby is given unto the Honble. James Allen Esqr. the Moderator of this Meeting for Dispatching the Business thereof.

Then the Meeting was Dismissed.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and lawfully warned in Public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Tuesday the ninth day of May A.D. 1749.

Prayer being made by the Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Jon^{a}. Mayhew.

The Precept & Warrant for calling the Meeting, Read.

Sundry Laws, Read.

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Thomas Hancock Esqr. one of the Selectmen in their Name proposed to the Inhabitants Assembled to proceed to the choice of a person or persons to serve for and Represent them in a Great and General Court or Assembly to be held at Boston upon Wednesday the thirty first day of May inst. and in order thereto to consider and Ascertain the Number of Gentlemen to be Elected, accordingly it was Voted to proceed to the choice of four Representatives, and it was then Declared that the Poll be clos'd at twelve o'Clock.

The Votes being Collected the Number of Voters were found to be 684 & upon sorting the Votes it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chose Viz^{t}.

The Hon^{o}. James Allen Esqr.	543
Thomas Hubbard Esqr.	678
M^{r}. John Tyng	513
The Hon^{o}. Samuel Waldo Esqr.	539

[**204.**] Voted that this Meeting be Adjourn'd to three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Three o'Clock in the afternoon the Town met according to Adjournment.

The Inhabitants proceeded to the choice of a Moderator by a written Vote, and having brought 'em in it Appeared that the Hon^{oble}. James Allen Esqr. was chose.

The Report of the Selectmen on the Visitation of the Publick School was Read, and is as follows. Viz^{t}.

To the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston in Town Meeting Assembled May 9th. 1749.

Pursuant to a Vote of the Town of Boston at their Meeting the 10th. of May last, desiring the Selectmen to Visit the Several Publick Schools & Invite such Gentlemen to Accompany them therein as they should think proper and to Report thereon.

We the Subscribers accordingly attended that Service on Tuesday the 28th. of June last, Accompanyed by the following Gent^{n}. Viz^{t}.

The Hon^{oble}. John Osborne
Joseph Wadsworth
Ezekiel Lewis
Josiah Willard
William Foye
Samuel Waldo
Andrew Oliver
John Wheelwright
Joshua Winslow
William Stoddard
Charles Apthorp
John Erving
} Esq^{rs}.

The Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Prince
M^{r}. Byles
M^{r}. Gray
M^{r}. Eliot
M^{r}. Cooper
M^{r}. Peter Chardon
M^{r}. James Pitts

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M^r^. William Bowdoin
M^r^. Jerem^h^. Belknap
M^r^. Jere^h^. Allen
M^r^. Joseph Sherburne
M^r^. Thomas Goodwell

and found the South Grammar School wherein where [205.] one hundred and twenty scholars in very good order, the South Writing in the common, wherein were Two hundred and seventy scholars in good order, the writing school in Queen Street of Fifty seven scholars in good order, and the North Grammar School of Thirty eight scholars in good order, and the North Writing School wherein were Two hundred and seventy Scholars in good order.

THO^s^. HANCOCK
MIDDLECOTT COOKE
W^M^. SALTER
JOHN STEEL
SAMUEL GRANT
THO^s^. HILL
} Select Men

Voted that this Report be Accepted, and that the Gentlemen the Selectmen be desired to Visit the Publick Schools the Year Ensuing, and that they desire such Gentlemen to Accompany them therein as they shall think convenient & Report thereon. also

Voted that the Selectmen for the time being, be and hereby they are desired to Recommend to the Masters of the Schools that they instruct their Scholars in Reading & Spelling and the Selectmen are desired to provide suitable Books for that Purpose at the Charge of the Town, to be given to such Poor Children as they may think proper.

The Selectmen appointed a Committee the thirteenth of March last, to consider what will be most for the Interest of the Town to do with the Lands & Buildings at the head of the Town Dock in the Possession of Thomas Hubbard Esqr. now reported as follows Viz^t^.

That on the nineteenth of April last they Joyned with M^r^. Hubbard in the choice of five Freeholders to Value and Apprize the Buildings on said Land Erected by said Hubbard agreeable to the Lease made him by the Town who afterwards Viewed said Buildings and Agreed that the Town ought to Pay M^r^. Hubbard Twenty One hundred & Sixty pounds old tenor in full for the Value of said Buildings over and above the Thirty pounds formerly paid him for part of the Wall on the North [206.] side and that they said Selectmen on behalf of the Town had since taken Possession of said Lands and Buildings, & they Apprehend it will be most for the Interest of the Town to Pay M^r^. Hubbard the said Sum of Two Thousand one hundred and sixty pounds for said Buildings.

Which Report was Read & Voted that the same be Accepted, Also Voted that the Selectmen be and hereby they are fully impowered to Lett or Lease said Lands and Buildings to such Person as will give the greatest Rent for the same and advance the aforesaid Sum of Two Thousand one hundred and sixty pounds due to M^r^. Hubbard such person to hold the premisses

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until the sum by him advanced is paid him in his Rent, as the same shall be agreed on by said Selectmen, and the Selectmen when they shall have so agreed are desired to Execute Leases accordingly.

The Town Enter'd into the consideration of that Article in the Warrant Viz^t. what is best to be "done with the several Law suits now Depending in the Superiour Court between the Town and M^r. Edward Bromfield & others concerning Oliver's Dock" and after some Debate thereon, It was Voted that M^r. John Tyng, M^r. Thomas Greene, M^r. William Fairfield, M^r. Jeremiah Belknap and M^r. William Palfrey be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to confer with M^r. Bromfield or any other persons that are Abutters on said Dock, or pretend any Right or Interest therein as also such of the Inhabitants as are Injured by the filling up of said Dock hear what proposals may be made to them for an accommodation of said affair, and Report the same to the Town at the Adjournment of this meeting.

The Petition of Thomas Gunter of Boston merchant setting forth, That the Petitioner being informed that at the Building the late School house in School street no provision was made for a Cellar under the said School he therefore thinking that so good an opportunity [207.] ought not to be lost to the Town in not having a good Cellar under the said School which will preserve said School from Rotting made Application to the Selectmen of the Town to Build a Cellar at his own Cost and charge depending on the known honour and Justice of the Town to give him such a term of Years in said Cellar, as shall be adequate to the Expence of Building the same he therefore with the Approbation of the Select men has Compleated Built and Finished the said Cellar which Cost him Three hundred Sixty eight pounds sixteen shillings old tenour bills, and so prayed the Town will be pleased to allow him so many Years in the said Cellar as may be a sufficient Recompence for the same —— was Read & thereupon It was Voted that the Selectmen be and they hereby are Impowered to give and Execute a good Lease of said Cellar unto said Thomas Gunter, To hold the same for the Term of Twenty one Years from this Day (any Vote or order respecting the Power of the Selectmen in leasing out the Towns Lands notwithstanding) which shall be in full Satisfaction for the Expence he has been at in building said Cellar, provided that he or any that any that may hold under him shall not put therein any Pitch, Tarr. Oyl, or Combustible Things the whole Term, and also that he Pay to the Treasurer of the Town for the Time being, the sum of Five shillings new Tenour Bills Yearly and every Year until the Expiration of said twenty one Years.

The Petition of Thomas Greene, & Henry Johnson of Boston Merchants, was Read, Setting forth that the Gun house in the common stands close to the Rear part of their Lands and is not far distant from the Dwelling house of one of the Petitioners which makes the same very detrimental to them and greatly Incomodes their Estates that the same may be removed to another place, more for the Benefit and Convenience of the Town, & they are are willing to be at the Expence of Removing it praying the Select

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Men may be Impowered to remove it at their Expence to such place as they [208.] may think best whereupon it was Voted that the Selectmen be and hereby are desired to Remove said Gunhouse (at the Pet^{rs}. Charge) to such other place as they shall Judge best.

The Petition of M^{r}. John Lovel Master of the South Grammar School praying for an Addition to his Salary was Read, and thereupon It was Voted that the same Salary he reciev'd the last Year Viz^{t}. Six hundred pounds old tenor be allowed him for this Year.

Also Voted the same Salary that was given to the several Schoolmasters & Ushers of the Town the last Year be continued to 'em for this Year.

The Selectmen appointed a Committee the tenth of May last to consider of the Petition of Thomas Fleet relating to a peice of Land in Water Street now Reported that they had viewed said Lands and searched the Records relating to it, and find that the Town have a peice of Land there belonging to 'em, which is bounded & measures as follows Viz^{t}. Westerly on the Land of the heirs of M^{r}. Samuel Greenleaf & M^{r}. Jon^{a}. Furnass there measuring Thirty feet six Inches then Northerly on Water Street there measuring Ten feet, Easterly, on said Street there measuring twenty feet six inches, then Southerly on Spring Lane on a curv'd Line to the Bounds first mentioned, which being Read was Accepted and thereupon Voted that the said Peice of Land be added to said Water Street for the use of the Town as long as the Town shall think proper, provided the neighbours or Abutters will Pave the same.

Messrs. Alexander Young Sworn } Constables.
Josiah Waters Pay }

were chose Constables for the Year Ensuing.

[209.] That Article in the Warrant relating to the Pavement of the Lanes leading to the church in Brattle Street was taken into consideration, and after some Debate thereon

It was Voted that the Town will not give any thing toward repairing Dassetts Lane it being the property of Private Persons, and that the repairing the Pavement of the other Lanes be referr'd to the Selectmen to do what they think proper.

The Town Entred upon the consideration of that Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. "Whether it be practicable for the Inhabitants to form a List of the Valuation of their Estates agreeable to the late Act of the province" and after a long Debate thereon, It was Voted that this Meeting be Adjourn'd to Friday the Twelfth instant in order to give the Inhabitants time duly to consider of this Affair.

And the Meeting was Adjourn'd to Friday the twelfth instant at nine o'Clock in the forenoon.

Fryday the twelfth of May at 9 o'Clock in the Forenoon, the Town met according to Adjournment.

Voted that the Sum of One hundred and Fifty pounds old tenor Bills be paid out of the Town Treasury unto M^{r}. Abijah Adams in full for his Service as Clerk of Faneuil Hall Market, and for cleansing & Sweeping the same Ringing the Bell & C^{a}. for the Year past.

Voted that the Sum of Four hundred and Fifty pounds old tenour

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Bills be paid out of the Town Treasury unto the Honble. Joseph Wadsworth Esqr. in full for his Service as Treasurer for the Year past.

Voted a Grant of Thirty six Thousand Pounds old tenor bills to be Rais'd by a Tax upon Polls and Estates within the Town of Boston for Relief of the Poor and defreying other necessary Charges, arising within and for said Town the Ensuing Year.

[210.] The Article in the Warrant about taking a List of the Valuation of the Estates of the Inhabitants which came under consideration at the opening of this meeting and then largely Debated, and continued to this time was now again considered of, and after a very long Debate thereon, It was unanimously

Voted that the Town judge it to be impracticable for the Inhabitants to form a List of the Valuation of their Estates agreeable to the late Act of the Province.

The Petition of M^{r}. John Fenno Keeper of the Granary Read at the Opening of the Meeting and continued over to this time, Praying for an Addition to his Salary, was considered of, and thereupon it was Voted that the Selectmen be and hereby are Impowered when they settle Accompts with said Fenno at the End of the Year to Allow him the sum of one hundred & fifty pounds old tenor bills for his Service the Curr^{t}. Year, or in proportion for the time he shall continue in that place.

Voted that the Selectmen be and they hereby are Impowered to Lease the Lands & Buildings late in Possession of Thomas Hubbard Esqr. at the head of the Dock for such a Term over & above Seven Years as they shall think proper, the Vote now in force notwithstanding.

M^{r}. John Larrabee. Pay. Constable
was chosen Constable for the Year Ensuing.

Voted that all matters and Things that now remain unfinished be continued over to the Adjournment of this Meeting to be then considered, and Acted upon.

Voted that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby is given unto the Honble James Allen Esqr. [211.] the Moderator of this Meeting for dispatching the Business thereof.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourn'd to Tuesday the 27th. day of June next nine o'Clock in the forenoon and the same was Adjourn'd accordingly.

Tuesday June 27th. 9 oClock in the Forenoon the Town met according to Adjournment.

The Committee appointed the 9th of May last to Confer with M^{r}. Bromfield or any other persons that are Abutters on Olivers Dock or pretend any Right or Interest therein as also such of the Inhabitants as are injur'd by the filling up of said Dock, hear what proposals may be made to them for an accommodation of said affair and make Report &C^{a}. now Reported that they had met and Conferr'd with M^{r}. Edward Bromfield & Christopher Tilden several times, that they propose to the Town for an accommodation that upon the Towns discontinuing their Actions now depending in the Superiour Court against them, and paying them their Costs they

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will permit the Town to have a Watercourse through said Dock, the Town maintaining the same, and also that the, neighbours who have drains thro' the Dock shall have liberty at all times to Repair 'em, paying all Damages that may arise thereby. A Question was put Whether the Town will accept of said Report, Unanimously.

Voted in the Negative.

Voted that Mr. Thomas Greene, Joseph White Esqr. & Mr. William Fairfield be and hereby are Added to the Committee appointed by the Town the twelfth day of May A D 1747 for bringing forward any Suit or Suits in the Law against any person or persons whatsoever that have made any Encroachments on the Towns Lands Situate in Water Street or near to Olivers Dock or adjoyning to the same in this Town, and in the Name of the Town to Appear in any of His Majestys Courts of Record and pursue such Suit or Suits until final Judgment and Execution, and Act and Do [212.] whatsoever they or the major part of them shall judge necessary to be done in and about the premisses, and especially if they see cause to referr the several Actions relating to said Dock that are now depending in the Superiour Court of Judicature &Ca. in Boston to the Determination of such persons as shall be Agreed upon by the said Committee and Parties concerned.

The Selectmen appointed a Committee the 14th. of March last to Advertize the Leasing of the Lands and Salt Ponds on the Neck, recieve proposals concerning the same &Ca. Reported that they had Advertiz'd that said Lands were to be Leased, but that no Person would take a Lease thereof for Seven Years being the Term to which the Selectmen are Confin'd by a Vote of the Town, and that they apprehended it would be for the Interest of the Town to Enlarge the term of Years for which said Lands are to be Leased. Thereupon It was Voted that the Selectmen be and they hereby are fully Authoriz'd and Impowered to Lease out said Lands & Salt Ponds on the best Terms they can and to such Person or Persons as they shall judge proper, for any Term of Time not exceeding Twenty one Years, the said Town Vote of seven Years notwithstanding, and they are desired in the Name and Behalf of the Town to Execute Leases accordingly.

Mr. John Wells was chosen Constable for the Year Ensuing and Sworn.

Mr. William White was chosen Clerk of the Market.

Then the Meeting was Dismissed.

[213.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and lawfully Warned in Public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Friday the Eighth day of December 1749.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting was Read.

John Phillips Esqr. was chose Moderator by a handy Vote.

The Moderator directed the Inhabitants to withdraw and bring in their Votes for four Collectors of Taxes for this present Year, in the Room of four persons who were chose into that Office in March last and refuse to serve, the Inhabitants accordingly withdrew and brought in their Votes, and upon Collecting 'em it

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Appeared there was Twenty seven Voters, and that the following Gentlemen were chose by a very great Majority. Viz^t.

Samuel Welles Esqr. Andrew Oliver Esqr. Thomas Hutchinson Esqr. & M^r. Edmund Quincy	Collectors of Taxes

the choice being Declar'd the Moderator inform'd the Inhabitants that the said Samuel Welles Andrew Oliver & Thomas Hutchinson Esq^rs. were not Obliged by Law to serve as Collectors of Taxes, and M^r. Edmund Quincy refusing to serve, the Moderator desired the Inhabitants to withdraw again and bring in their Votes for four other persons as Collectors of Taxes, the Inhabitants immediately withdrew and brought in their votes accordingly, and upon Collecting and sorting 'em it appeared that.

Messrs. Josiah Quincy	Excus'd	Collectors
William Bowdoin	refuses to serve	
James Pitts	refuses to serve	
John Comrin	Excus'd	

were chose.

Then the Meeting was Adjourn'd to three o'Clock P. M.

Three o'Clock in the Afternoon, The Inhabitants met.

[214.] Messrs. Josiah Quincy and John Comrin appear'd and inform'd that within seven Years past they had been chose into the Office of Constables, and so were not Obliged by Law to Serve as Collectors of Taxes, they were thereupon Excus'd and Messrs. William Bowdoin and James Pitts declared they would not serve as Collectors of Taxes, Whereupon the Moderator directed the Inhabitants to withdraw and bring in their Votes, and upon sorting 'em, it Appeared that

Messrs. Thomas Oxnard James Boutineau Isaac Winslow Nicholas Boyleston	Collectors

were chosen, and they being inform'd thereof by a Constable sent their Answer to the Moderator that they would not serve in said office.

Whereupon it was Moved and Seconded that this Meeting be Dismissed, and that the Selectmen be desired to call another Meeting of the Inhabitants as soon as may be, desiring in the Notifications that the Inhabitants in General would give their Attendance in order to consult upon the best Method that can be taken to choose such persons for Collectors of Taxes as will serve, which was Voted accordingly.

And the Meeting was Dismissed.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and lawfully warn'd in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the Eighteenth day of December A.D. 1749.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting, Read.

John Phillips Esqr. was chose Moderator by a handy Vote.

[215.] The Town proceeded to consider of that Article in the Warrant Viz^t. Whether any Addition shall be made to the Allow-

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ance or Premium Voted in March last for collecting of the Taxes of this Year and after some Debate thereon. Voted in the Negative.

The Town then brought in their Votes for four Collectors of Taxes and upon sorting 'em it Appeared that

Messrs.	Thomas Greene	Excus'd
	John Spooner	refuses to serve
	John Gooch	refuses to serve
	Jonathan Clarke	Excus'd.

were chose.

Then a Motion was made & seconded by many of the Inhabitants that the Vote pass'd this forenoon relating to the Allowance or Premium for Collecting of Taxes may be Reconsidered Voted in the Affirmative by a great Majority, then It was Moved & Voted that the sum of three pence on the pound be & hereby is Added to the nine pence on the pound Voted in March last for Collecting the Taxes of this Year, the Collectors to Pay the respective Treasurers & give security according to said Vote.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjournd to 3 oClock P.M.

Three oClock the Inhabitants met & Voted that this Meeting be further Adjourn'd to Friday next 10 o,Clock A.M.

Friday 10 o'clock in the forenoon the Town met and were directed to bring in their Votes for four Collectors which they accordingly did, and upon Sorting 'em it Appeared that

Messrs. John Grant Joseph Russell James Day & Thomas Downe jun^{r}.	Collectors.

were chose all of whom Appeared & Accepted.

Then the Meeting was Dimissed.

[**216.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly Qualified and lawfully Warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the twelfth day of March A.D. 1749.

Prayer was made by the Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Thomas Prince.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting . . . Read.

Sundry Laws. Read.

The Town proceeded to the Choice of a Moderator by a written Vote, and upon sorting 'em it appeared that the Honble. James Allen Esqr. was chosen.

Ezekiel Goldthwait was unanimously chose Town Clerk for the year ensuing and Sworne to the faithful Discharge of his Duty in that Office by the Hon^{o}. Jacob Wendell Esquire.

Voted, That the Town proceed to the Choice of Seven Selectmen and the Votes being brought in and sorted, it appeared that

Thomas Hancock Esqr. M^{r}. Middlecott Cooke John Steel Esqr. Capt. William Salter M^{r}. Samuel Grant M^{r}. Thomas Hill & M^{r}. John Gardner	Select Men.

were Chose by a very Great Majority.

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The following Gentlemen were chose Overseers of the Poor Viz^{t}.

	The Hon^{o}. Jacob Wendell Esqr.	Overseers of the Poor.
	William Tyler Esqr.	
	Col^{o}. John Hill	
	Thomas Hubbard Esqr.	
	Daniel Henchman Esqr.	
[217.]	M^{r}. Edward Bromfield	
	Col^{o}. William Downe	
	The Hon^{o}. Andrew Oliver Esqr.	
	John Phillips Esqr.	
	M^{r}. Isaac Walker	
	Capt. Eben^{r}. Storer	
	M^{r}. John Barrett	

Upon a Motion made and Seconded, Voted that the Person chose into the Office of Town Treasurer shall hereafter be Obliged to give Bonds for the faithful Discharge of his Duty in that Office, to the Satisfaction of the Selectmen for the time being.

Voted that the Town proceed to the Choice of a Town Treasurer, and the Votes being accordingly brought in and Sorted it appeared that there was no Choice, whereupon the Inhabitants withdrew, and brought in their Votes again, & upon Sorting 'em it appeared that M^{r}. David Jeffries was Chose, and he was accordingly sworn in, by the Hon^{o}. Jacob Wendell Esqr.

The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for a County Treasurer, which being Collected, were according to Law sealed up by M^{r}. Constable Featherstone to be by him kept and returned to the next Quarter Sessions.

Upon a Motion made and Seconded Voted unanimously that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby is Given unto the Hon^{oble}. Joseph Wadsworth Esqr. late Treasurer of the Town for his long and faithful Services in that Office.

Voted that no Person that has been chose into the Office of a Constable within Seven Years past, shall be again chose to that Office for the Ensuing year.

Voted that this Meeting be and hereby is Adjourned to three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

[218.] Three aClock in the Afternoon, The Town being Assembled.

Voted, That twelve Constables be chose, distinct from the Collectors of Taxes.

Voted, that the Person chose into the Office of a Constable for the year ensuing, be Excused from serving provided he Pay to the Town Treasurer the Sum of Twenty Pounds old tenor bills.

The Selectmens Report on the Accompt of M^{r}. John Fenno keeper of the Granary for the Year past, as Enter'd in his Book (and on file in the Town Clerks Office) Read and Voted that the said Report be accepted, and accordingly that M^{r}. Fenno be further Accountable to the Town for four hundred & thirty bushels of Indian Corn at 24/ p bush^{l}. being £516 . . . and 67 bushels of Rye at 34/ shillings p bushel being £113,, 18 . 0 & also for Cash £1908..13..7. all which amounts to the Sum of Two

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Thousand five hundred & thirty eight pounds Eleven shillings & Seven pence old tenor bills, & which is now in his hands, exclusive of his Salary of One hundred & fifty pounds, and for assistance Fifty pounds, which is hereby allowed to the said John Fenno, as p his Accompt.

Henry Bromfield	Pay
Timothy Fitch	Pay
Ephraim Green	Sworne
Royal Tyler	Pay
William Greenleafe	Pay
Francis Archbald	Pay
John Phillips Junr.	Pay
John Burroughs	Pay
John Ryder	Sworn
John Kneeland Junr.	Pay
Isaac Smith	Pay
Phillip Bennest	Excus'd

were Chosen Constables for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Robert Trail	Pay
Thomas Lawlor	Sworn
Tim^{o}. Newell	Pay
John Erving	Sworn
James Trench	Sworn
John Henly	Excus'd
[219.] John Barker	Sworn
Abraham Tuckerman	Sworn
Cornelius Tileston	Excus'd
Jonathan Greenleafe	Excus'd
Edward Cushing	Pay

Adjourn'd to nine a Clock tomorrow morning.

Tuesday, March 13th. The Town met according to Adjournment.

Messrs. Nathaniel Hodgdon	Sworn	Sealers of Leather.
Josiah Carter		
James Dawson	Sworn	
John Allen	Sworn	
Thomas Hase		
Thomas Hartley	Sworn	

were Chosen Sealers of Leather for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. William Moore	Sworn	Fence Viewers.
Benjamin Russell	Sworn	
James Tilestone	Sworn	
Onesiphorus Tilestone	Sworn	
Caleb Ray	Sworn	
Thomas March	Sworn	

were Chosen Fence Viewers, for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Isaac Vergoose	Sworn	Viewers of Boards Shingles &C^{a}.
William Pain	Sworn	
Clement Collins	Sworn	
John Grant	Sworn	
William Merchant		
Andrew Symmes	Sworn	
John Low	Sworn	

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William Nichols . .	Sworn	Viewers of Boards Shingles &C^{a}.
Moses Eayres . . .	Sworn	
John Greenough . .		
John Simpson . . .		
Henry Allen . .		

were Chosen Viewers of Boards, Shingles, &C^{a}., for the Year ensuing.

[220.] Messrs. John Cotton . . . Sworn
Edward Whittemore . Sworn
Samuel Greene . . Excus'd
John Kilby . . . Sworn
Pearn Cowell . . . Sworn

were Chosen Constables, for the Year Ensuing.

Messrs. Saml. Phillips Savage . .	Sworn	Clerks of the Markets.
Thomas Allen	Sworn	
Joseph Palmer	Sworn	
W^{m}. Blair Townsend . .	Sworn	
Royal Tyler	Sworn	
Samuel Edwards . . .	Sworn	
Joseph Edwards	Sworn	
Arthur Savage	Sworn	
Thomas Newman . . .	Sworn	
Timothy Newell	Sworn	
Aaron Boardman . . .	Sworn	
Thomas Etheridge . . .	Sworn	

were Chosen Clerks of the Market, for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Nathaniel Band } Hawards.
Hugh Paul

were Chosen Hawards, for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Harvey Thomas		Cullers of Staves.
Benjamin Ballard		
Joseph Dyer		
Benjamin Sault		
Joseph Savel Junr.		
John Hobbs	Sworn	
Peter Cotta		
Thomas Sergeant		
Edward Cowell . . .	Sworn	
Samuel Treat		

were Chosen Cullers of Staves, for the Year ensuing.

[221.] Messrs. John Brocas		Hogreeves.
Peter Jenkins	Sworn	
William Green	Sworn	
William Todd	Sworn	

were Chosen Hogreeves, for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Joseph Edwards	Scavingers.
Benjamin Harrod	
Edward Winter	
Belcher Noyes	
Nathaniel Thwing	
David Wheeler	
John Potter	

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David Jenkins
David Cutler
Ellis Wilson } Scavingers.
William Baker
Joseph Belknap

were Chosen Scavingers, for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Thomas Greene
Joseph Jackson } Purchasers of Grain.
Thomas Stoddard

were Chosen Purchasers of Grain, for the Year ensuing.

The said Committee are desired and Impowered to give all needful Directions to the Keeper of the Granary respecting the Quantitys of Grain to be Sold, and Setting the Price thereof from time to time as Occasion shall require.

Messrs. Thomas Foster jun^r. Sworn } Assay masters.
David Cutler Sworn

were Chosen Assay-masters for the Year ensuing.

M^r. John Gray . . . Sworn { Surveyor of Hemp.

was chose Surveyor of Hemp, for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. David Colson . . . } Informers of Deer.
Benjamin Harrod Sworn

were Chosen Informers of Deer, for the Year ensuing.

[222.] Nothing done thereon { Tythingmen.

The Selectmen of Boston { Surveyors of highways.

Messrs. Henry Newman . . . . . Pay
Robert Rand jun^r. . . . . Pay.

Messrs. John Phillips Esqr.
John Hill Esqr.
Capt. John Carnes
Capt. Isaac White
Capt. Joseph Russell
Capt. Henry Berry } Firewards
Capt. Joseph Jackson
Capt. James Day
M^r. Robert Breck
M^r. John Scolley

were Chosen Firewards, for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Joseph Russell
James Day
John Ruddock
Thomas Downe jun^r. } Collectors of Taxes.
Benjamin Edwards
John Grant

were Chosen Collectors of Taxes, for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Edmund Quincy Pay } Constables. [In margin.]
William Rand Pay
M^r. Abijah Adams

were Chose Clerk of Faneuil Hall Mark for the Year ensuing.

M^r. William Holmes — Excus'd

Voted that the Sum of twelve pence on the pound be and hereby is allowed to be paid to the Collectors of Taxes for the year ensuing for all such sums as they shall Collect provided they Pay unto

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the Town Treasurer one half part of the whole sum they are [223.] Obliged to pay him within three Months from the time of receiving the Tax Books from the Assessors, and the other half part in three months after, and also pay to the Province and County Treasurers one half part of the whole Sums they shall be obliged to pay them respectively in six months from the time they receive the Books from the Assessors as aforesaid, and the other half part in six months after; and in Case either of the said Collectors shall fail paying the said Treasurers in the above manner, the Collector so failing shall not be Entitled to the aforesaid allowance of twelve pence on the pound for Collecting. but wholly forfeit the same provided also that the said Collectors give Bond with sufficient Suretys to the Satisfaction of the Selectmen for the faithful, Discharge of their Duty in that Office, and Complying with this Vote.

Mess^{n}. Nathaniel Barber	Sworn	Assessors.
William Fairfield	Sworn	
Jacob Parker	Sworn	
Joseph Fitch	Sworn	
Thomas Foster	Sworn	
John Winslow	Sworn	
Joseph Bradford	Ex.	

were Chosen Assessors, for the Year ensuing.

M^{r}. William Lowder	Sworn
M^{r}. John Welch	Excus'd.

The Petition of M^{r}. Middlecott Cooke of Boston Gent^{n}. setting forth, that since the removal of the South Latin School house from off the Towns Ground adjoyning to the old Burial place several of the Inhabitants of the Town have made a range of Tombs on the lower side of said Ground with a Brick Wall whereby a small peice of Land is left out of the Burying Ground abutting on your Petit^{r}. which can be of no use to the Town, but would be of some Benefit to him in order to make the backway into his yard somewhat more convenient, and as your Petit^{r}. in order to straiten and widen the passage way leading into the Burying place gave in some of his Land notwithstanding it was before very narrow [224.] Just in that place, the Petit^{r}. praying the Town to take the same into their Consideration, and in lieu thereof give him the whole, or so much of said Land as they shall think proper was Read, and thereupon Voted that the Honble. Jacob Wendell Esqr. Abiel Walley Esqr. & M^{r}. Thomas Greene be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to Consider of this Petition, View the Lands therein mentioned and Report at the Adjournment of this Meeting, what is proper for the Town to do thereon.

The Petition of sundry Inhabitants praying that the Sum of Fifty Pounds new tenor bills may be allowed to Christ's Church for cleaning fitting and fixing the Clock there, that the same for the future be maintained by the Town, and that the great Bell there be rung at one o'Clock, now came under Consideration, and after some Debate thereon, the question was put, whether the prayer of the Petition be granted, It pass'd in the Negative, and that said Petition be dismiss'd.

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Voted that the Honble. John Wheelwright Esqr.
M^r^. Joseph Green &
M^r^. Thomas Greene
be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to Examine and Adjust the Books and Accompts of the Honble. Joseph Wadsworth late Treasurer of the Town, and if they think best, Transferr said Accompts into new Books or take such other Method as they think proper, and Do whatsoever they shall Judge necessary for a final Settlement of the Towns Accompts with said Joseph Wadsworth Esqr. and he is desired to attend said Committee from time to time, as occasion shall require. — And said Committee are desired to Audit the Accompts of the Overseers of the Poor respecting the Workhouse and Almshouse at the usual place of said Overseers meeting, and when they have Compleated the Business aforesaid, are desired to make Report thereon to the Town.

Voted that the Honble. Thomas Hutchinson Esqr.
the Honble. Samuel Welles Esqr. and
Benjamin Prat Esqr. be and [225.]
they hereby are appointed A Committee to Revise all the By-Laws and Orders pass'd by the Town that are now in force, and Correct the same as they think proper, they are also desired to prepare a By Law for preventing Negroes and Servants purchasing provisions &c. and also any other By Laws that they may Judge necessary for the better Regulation of the Town, and make Report of their doings hereon at the General Town meeting in May next.

The Petition of William Bowen praying that the Town will make him such an allowance as they shall think proper for the Damages he has sustained in being prosecuted in the Law by Nathaniel Wardell was now read and after some Debate thereon, the Question was put, whether the Prayer of the Petition should be granted, And it pass'd in the Negative, and that said Petition be dismiss'd.

The Petition of M^r^. Samuel Gibson Usher of the South Grammer School, praying that an additional allowance may be made him for his Services, and that an Increase may be made to his Salary for the future, was now read and after a short debate thereon, It was Voted that the Sum of One hundred pounds old tenor bills be and hereby is allowed unto M^r^. Gibson in full for past Services, and that the Consideration of the other part of his Petition Viz^t^. for an addition to be made to his Salary be referr'd to the General Town Meeting in May next.

Voted that the Assessors be and they hereby are allowed to sit upon the Abatement of Taxes to the first day of June next and no longer, saving that they have Liberty to sit the second and third Weeks in November next to Abate the Taxes of such persons as shall appear to be dead, or out of Town, and could not have made application to them therefor before the said first day of June.

The Memorial of John Hill Esqr. M^r^. Samuel Wentworth and M^r^. Sutton Byles was now read, setting forth that the Memorialists have on certain Terms hired of the Selectmen in [226.] Behalf of the Town, sundry parcels of the Towns Lands and Marshes on Boston Neck for twenty one Years, which term they conceive

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is much too short for them to reap Advantages adequate to the Labour Expence & Hazard that will attend a faithful Discharge of the Ingagements they are under to the Town, and said Memorialists being inclined to Effect their Obligations to the Town in the best and amplest manner, pray the Town will extend the term of their Leases for Ten Years, over and above the twenty one Years aforesaid, and that the Selectmen may be directed and impowered to give and Execute Leases to them for said ten Years accordingly which will the better enable the Memorialists to Accomplish their very large Expensive & hazardous undertaking and thereupon It was Moved that the Leases made and Executed by the Selectmen to the Memorialists bearing date the first day of March Inst^t. might be now read, which was accordingly done, and then the Memorialists being heard, and the affair fully Debated and Considered, It was Voted that a further Term of Ten Years be, and hereby is granted unto the said John Hill, Samuel Wentworth and Sutton Byles in the said Lands and Premisses to them respectively leas'd by the Selectmen on the first of March instant they to hold the same for that time upon the Conditions and Terms of the former Lease; which makes their whole term therein Thirty one Years from the first of March Instant. Also Voted that the Selectmen be and they hereby are fully Authorized and Impowered to give and Execute Leases to the said Memorialists of said Lands and Premisses, for said Additional ten years accordingly.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourn'd to Wednesday the 21st. inst. to three o'Clock in the afternoon, and the same was Adjourn'd accordingly.

[227.] Wednesday the 21st. of March, the Town met according to their Adjournment.

Capt. John Goldthwait was chose an Assessor for the Year ensuing in the Room of M^r. John Welch who was Excus'd.

The Committee appointed the 12th. inst. to Consider of the Petition of M^r. Middlecott Cooke, now reported that they had attended that Business, Viewed the Land mention'd in said Petition, and that it is their Opinion that the Town allow the Prayer of the Petition, that the Lands therein mentioned be granted to M^r. Cooke upon his paying to the Town One Hundred and twenty Pounds bills of the old tenor. — which Report being Read, It was Voted that the same be accepted. — and that the said Land be & hereby is granted unto the said Middlecott Cooke for the Consideration aforesaid also Voted that the Selectmen or a Major part of them be and they hereby are fully Authorized and Impowered in behalf of the Town to Execute unto the said Middlecott Cooke a good and lawful Deed of said Land, upon his paying the aforesaid Sum of One Hundred and twenty pounds.

Voted that all Matters and Things that remain unfinished be referr'd over to the General Town Meeting in May next to be then considered of and Acted upon.

Voted that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby is given unto the Honble. James Allen Esqr. the Moderator of this Meeting, for transacting the Business thereof.

Then the Meeting was Dismiss'd.

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At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and lawfully warn'd in Public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Tuesday the fifteenth day of May A.D. 1750.

Prayer being made by the Rev^{d}. Saml. Checkley sen^{r}.

The Precept & Warrant for calling the Meeting Read.

[228.] Sundry Laws Read.

Thomas Hancock Esqr. one of the Selectmen in their name propos'd to the Inhabitants assembled to proceed to the Choice of a person or persons to Serve for & Represent them in a Great and General Court or Assembly to be held at Boston upon Wednesday the thirtieth day of May instant, and in order thereto to Consider & Ascertain the Number of Gentlemen to be Elected, accordingly it was Voted to proceed to the Choice of four Representatives, and it was then declared that the Poll be clos'd at twelve o'Clock.

The Votes being Collected the Number of Voters were found to be 541, and before they were Sorted, a Motion was made by M^{r}. Thomas Greene & Seconded by many of the Inhabitants that a Question should be put to the Town "Whether it is Expected by the Inhabitants that the Persons that shall be now Chose for Representatives, Serve in that place without being paid for the same, And the Question shall be accordingly put, It was Voted by a very great Majority, that the Town do not expect that the Persons chose as Representatives receive any Pay. And then the Votes were Sorted and it thereupon appeared that the following Gent^{n}. were chose Viz^{t}.

The Hon^{o}. James Allen Esqr.	365.
The Hon^{o}. Thos. Hubbard Esqr.	520.
M^{r}. John Tyng	348.
M^{r}. Harrison Gray	296.

The Election of Representatives being over, and the same being Declared by the Selectmen.

The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for a Moderator, and upon sorting the same it appeared that the Honble. James Allen Esqr. was chose.

Voted that the Meeting be Adjourn'd to three o'Clock in the afternoon.

Three a'Clock in the Afternoon the Town met according to Adjournment.

[229.] The Report of the Selectmen on the Visitation of the Publick Schools, Read and is as follows Viz^{t}.

To the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston in Town Meeting Assembled May 15th. 1750.

Pursuant to a Vote of the Town of Boston at their Meeting the ninth of May last, desiring the Selectmen to Visit the several publick Schools, and Invite such Gentlemen to Accompany them therein as they should think proper, do now report,

That on the 28th of June last, We attended that Service, accompanyed with the following Gentlemen Viz^{t}.

The Honble. Jacob Wendell
Samuel Danforth
Andrew Oliver
Thos. Hutchinson } Esq^{rs}.

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The Rev^{d}. D^{r}. Joseph Sewall
M^{r}. William Welsteed
M^{r}. Samuel Mather
M^{r}. Samuel Checkley Junr.
M^{r}. Edmund Quincy
M^{r}. Thomas Greene
D^{r}. Sylvester Gardiner.

and found that in the South Grammer School there were 120 Scholars, in the South Writing School 278 Scholars, in the Writing School in Queen Street 72 Scholars, in the North Grammer School 45 Scholars, in the North Writing School 250 Scholars all in very good order.

THOMAS HANCOCK
JOHN STEEL
WILLIAM SALTER
SAMUEL GRANT
THOMAS HILL
JOHN GARDNER
} Selectmen.

Voted that this Report be Accepted, and that the Gent^{n}. the Selectmen be desired to Visit the Publick Schools the Year ensuing, and that they Invite such Gent^{n}. to Accompany them as they shall think Convenient, and Report thereon.

The Petition of D^{r}. William Rand, praying for an Abatement of sundry Taxes, committed to him to Collect in the Years 1734, 1735, 1736 & 1737, as in said Petition is set forth, was now read, [**230.**] And thereupon Voted that the Assessors of the Town be and hereby are appointed a Committee to Consider of said Petition here the Pet^{rs}. and report to the Town what Taxes ought to be Abated him.

The Petition of sundry Inhabitants of the Town praying that the Pavement in Wood lane at the Northerly part of the Town may be taken up and laid Anew, was read, and thereupon it was Voted that the said Pavement be taken up, and laid anew, at the Expence of the Town, the same to be under the direction of the Selectmen.

The Town Enter'd upon the Consideration of the Pet^{o}. of Messrs. Joseph White, John Staniford and William Larrabee, praying they may be abated the Taxes they had paid for Harvard College and the Artillery Company, as the same were remitted by the General Court &c^{a}. —— and it was thereupon Voted that the Taxes aforesaid be abated the Petitioners, and that the Selectmen be and hereby are desired to give Drafts on the Treasury to the Petit^{rs} for the respective Sums they have paid for the aforesaid College and Company.

Voted a Grant of Four Thousand pounds lawful money, to be rais'd by a Tax upon Polls and Estates within the Town of Boston for relief of the Poor & defreying other necessary Charges, arising within said Town the Year ensuing.

Voted that the Selectmen be & hereby they are desired to Enforce the Payment of all such Taxes as became due, (and are still unpaid,) to the Town before the Year 1748.

Voted that the Sum of One hundred and twenty Pounds lawful

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money, be allowed and paid to Mr. John Lovel for his Salary, as Master of the South Grammer School for the ensuing Year, the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the sum of One hundred and twenty [231.] Pounds lawful money be allowed and paid to Mr. Peleg Wiswall for his Salary as Master of the North Grammer School, for the ensuing Year, the same to be paid him quarterly, as it shall become due and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

The Article in the Warrant vizt. to determine whether application shall be made to the General Court to repeal the Law lately pass'd laying a Duty on Tea, Coffee, Coaches, Chaises &ca. or what may be proper to be done concerning it, was taken into Consideration and after some Debate thereon, It was Voted that

Abiel Walley Esqr.
The Hono. Samuel Welles Esqr.
Charles Apthorp Esqr.
Thomas Hancock Esqr. &
Mr. John Smith, be and they hereby are

Impowered and desired to prepare the Draft of a Memorial to to the Great and General Court or Assembly, praying them to repeal said Law, and if this cannot be obtained, that the same may be so far alter'd, as that the Town of Boston may receive the Benefit of the Duties arising on the several Commodities mentioned in said Law and on Coaches, Chaises &ca. that are paid by the Inhabitants of Boston, —— and said Committee are desired to make report of such Draft at the Adjournment of this Meeting.

The Article in the Warrant relating to the removing the Powder house in the Common, came under Consideration, but the Town will do nothing concerning it.

Voted that the Sum of Fifty Pounds, lawful money be allowed and paid unto Mr. Robert Treat Paine, for his Salary, as Usher of the South Grammer School, for the Year ensuing, the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due, and to Commence from the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted, that the Sum of One hundred pounds lawful money, be allowed and paid unto Mr. Abia Holbrook for his Salary as Master of the South Writing School in the Common, for the ensuing Year, the same to be paid him Quarterly, as it shall become due, and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

[232.] Voted that the sum of One hundred pounds lawful money be allowed and paid unto Mr. Zachariah Hicks for his Salary as Master of the North Writing School, for the ensuing Year, the same to be paid quarterly as it shall become due, and to commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the sum of Eighty pounds lawful money be allowed and paid out to Mr. Samuel Holyoke for his Salary as Master of the Writing School in Queen Street, for the ensuing year, the same to be paid him quarterly as it shall become due, and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the Sum of Fifty pounds lawful money be allowed and paid to Mr. Samuel Holbrook for his Salary as Usher of the

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South Writing School in the Common for the ensuing Year, the same to be paid quarterly as it shall become due, and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the Sum of Fifty Pounds lawful money be allowed and paid to Mr. John Procter junr. for his Salary as Usher of the North Writing School for the ensuing Year, the same to be paid him quarterly as it shall become due, and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that a Sum not exceeding Fifteen pounds lawful money be allowed for repairing the North Battery and that John Steele Esqr. Captain of said Battery, take care that the same be repaired accordingly.

The Petition of sundry Inhabitants of the Town, praying that further Provision may be made for the Education and Instruction of the Children in Writing, more especially those that live at the South part of the Town, either by Enlarging the Writing School in Queen street or otherwise as the Town shall think proper. Read and thereupon It was Voted that Messrs. Jeremiah Belknap [233.] Zachariah Johonnot and Thomas Foster be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to Consider of this Petition, and they are desired to View the School house in Queen street under the care of Mr. Samuel Holyoke, and see if it can be Enlarged, and in what manner, or what else they may Judge proper to be done for the Relief of the Petitioners and Report hereon at the Adjournment of this Meeting.

The Town proceeded to take into Consideration the Article in the Warrant vizt. what Method is best to be taken to Secure their Marsh Lands at the bottom of the Common, & whether they will Lease out the same, and after some Debate thereon, It was Voted that the Selectmen be and hereby are desired & Impowered to Advertize in the publick prints that said Lands are to be leased, and receive proposals concerning the same, and Report thereon, to the Town.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourn'd to Friday the 25th. inst. at three o'Clock in the afternoon.

Friday the 25th. May, three o'Clock, the Town mett.

A Motion was made and Seconded by many that this Meeting be immediately Adjourn'd to further day, and it was thereupon Voted that this Meeting be Adjourned to Tuesday the 5th. of June next at three o'Clock in the Afternoon, and the same was Adjourned to that time accordingly.

June 5th. 1750. Tuesday three o'Clock P.M. the Town mett according to their Adjournment.

The Committee appointed the 15th. day of May last to Consider of the Petition of sundry Inhabitants praying that further Provision may be made for the Education & Instruction of Children in Writing, as is therein fully set forth, now made Report, that they had attended that Service and found that there is Room on the Towns Land to Enlarge the School house in Queen street, at the Southerly End about Twenty two feet in length, and about Eighteen feet in wedth, and that it was their Opinion that said School will then Accommodate about One hundred and sixty or

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seventy Scholars. whereas it will now [234.] Accommodate but about Eighty or Ninety, and if the Town sees cause to comply therewith, they Judge it will answer the prayer of the Petitioners." — which Report being read, and a short Debate had thereon, It was Voted that the same be accepted, and also that the Selectmen be and hereby are Impowered and desired to Enlarge said School in Queen street, as soon as may be, and that they Extend such Enlargement as far beyond the Towns land into the street as may be without any Inconvenience to said street.

The Committee appointed the 15th. of May last, to prepare the Draft of a Memorial to the Great and General Court or Assembly, praying them to repeal the Law lately pass'd by said Court, laying a Duty on Tea, Coffee, Arrack snuff and China Ware, and also on Coaches, Chaises &c^a. now made Report of a Memorial they had prepar'd which is in the following words Viz^t.

To the Honourable Spencer Phips Esqr. Lieu^t. Governour and Commander in Chief of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay, the Honourable the Council and House of Representatives in General Court Assembled May 30th. 1750.

The Memorial of the Town of Boston, Humbly Sheweth,

That the Inhabitants of said Town readily & chearfully acknowledge their Confidence in the Wisdom Justice & Goodness of the Great and General Court, and obligation to submit and pay obedience to their Acts, nevertheless they humbly beg leave to represent some of the great Difficultys they apprehend, attending and consequent upon the Tempory Act pass'd in the last Sessions of the late General Assembly, Entitled an Act for Granting to his Majesty, an Excise upon sundry Articles hereafter Enumerated, for and towards the support of his Majesty's Government of this Province.

Whereupon they pay liberty humbly to observe. That as Trade and Commerce are the great Business and support of the Town of Boston and almost the only means to enable them to pay between a fifth & a sixth part of the Charge of the whole Province, if their [235.] Trade sho'd fail, it is not possible they should pay any such proportion of the publick Expence, and that Trade is in a very languishing Condition, and almost ready to leave them, is very apparent from the almost Constant bad Voyages made, even when the Ships and other Vessels go and come in Safety, to add a further weight and burthen to that which is almost ready to sink with its former Difficulties, affects the Town very much in this Critical Conjuncture, when there is a profess'd design of some in the Neighbouring Governments, to strip them as far as possible of the trade they have had from their Foundation.

The Town would further humbly observe, that the Business of retailing Tea, Coffee &c. is mainly carried on by Widows and persons in low Circumstances, who generally, very hardly get a poor subsistance and sho'd this Act continue and take place, there will be danger of their becoming a Charge and burthen to the Town.

The Town begs leave further humbly to suggest to your Honours, whether this Act may not bring on the displeasure of those two great and powerful Corporations the East India & Turkey Com-

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panys in our mother Country, & whether the little profit which may arise by this Act is not much over balanc'd by the Risque of their Resentment.

The Town are also much affected, with the danger of multiplying Excises, which if made effectual, will probably bring on a multiplication of Officers with very large & arbitary power, how Consistent these things will be (sho'd they come to pass) with the natural Rights and Libertys of Mankind and especially of Englishmen, has been abundantly discuss'd and very clearly evidenc'd in our mother Country on a late famous occasion.

They are moreover very apprehensive, that these Excises will dispose many among us to remove into the Neighbouring Governments, where they may trade upon and improve these Commodities without Duties, and it is very probable that many of the Inhabitants of this Province will mainly supply themselves from the Retailers of those Articles, who dwell in the other Governments, in which case the profit of selling them, will go out of the Province and nothing at all be paid into the Treasury here, & whether when these Retailers of Tea &c^rz. can with such superiour and apparent advantage trade in these things out of [**236.**] The Province and supply us, they will not be tempted to Sell and our people to buy of them, other Commodities also, the Inhabitants of this Province are under some natural & almost inevitable difficulties, by their being a barrier to his Majestys Subjects and Interest in North America, which has greatly increased the Taxes of this Town, as they pay so large a proportion as has been mentioned, and thinn'd their numbers, both by the Wars, and the removal of diverse of our people to the Southern Governments, the Town humbly begs leave to enquire, whether it would not greatly discourage any, even the Richest County in England, if a considerable Duty should be laid on their Consumption, when nothing at all was paid by their fellow subjects all round them.

The Town are also much Concerned that there should be laid by this Act, such a duty on Coaches, Chariots, Chaises &c^a. this will fall principally on Boston which by your Honours Judgment, paid their proportion before, between a fifth and a sixth part of the Charge of the whole Province, but in this, they will pay much more than all the Province beside.

Wherefore as well as for many other reasons your Memorialists humbly pray your Honours to repeal the above mentioned Act, or allow the Duties paid by the Inhabitants of Boston to be paid into the Town Treasury for the Town's use, or grant such other Relief as to your Honours known wisdom and Justice, and paternal care and goodness shall meet and suitable to the declining and distress't state of this sinking Town.

Which being Read and Debated upon, It was Voted that the same be accepted, and that the Selectmen be and hereby are desired to prepair a fair Copy of said Memorial, Sign the same in behalf of the Town and present it to said General Court, at their next Sessions.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourn'd to Friday the 29th. instant at three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

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Friday the 29th of June 1750, three o'Clock in the Afternoon the Town met according to Adjournment.

[237.] Voted, that the Sum of Twenty pounds lawful money be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury unto Abijah Adams in full for his Service, as Clerk of Faneuil Hall Market, for the year past.

The Committee appointed to Audit the Accompts of the late Town Treasurer Joseph Wadsworth Esqr. now made Report as follows vizt. that they had attended that Service, and find the several Draughts made on him by the Selectmen and Overseers of the Poor, are right cast and well vouch'd, and that there is remaining unpaid of the several Draughts on him Twelve thousand three hundred and ten pounds, seventeen shillings and nine pence old tenor, which the new Treasurer Mr. Jeffries is to pay by virtue of the Orders given by the Selectmen and Overseers of the poor to the late Treasurer, said Committee also find that the Hon°. John Wheelwright Esqr. has Setled and Transferr'd the Several Ballances from the late Treasurer Wadsworths books, into a Sett of new Books for Mr. Jeffries; who was lately chosen Treasurer for the Town of Boston: and also that there is remaining due from the said Wadsworth unto the Town of Boston Eight hundred Seventy seven Pounds and five pence old tenor, excepting what may be granted him for his Service the Year past.—— which Report being Read, It was Voted that the same be accepted, —— And it appearing by the Accompts of the late Treasurer Wadsworth that the sum of Six hundred and Sixty six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence bills of the new tenor granted by the General Court in the Year 1742 for Compleating the North Battery and purchasing Stores &ca. which was put into Mr. Treasurer Wadsworths hands by order of the Town, to be by him kept until it was drawn out for that use, had been applyed by him for payment of the Towns Debts, which he ought not to have done. In order therefore to replace the said Sum for the use aforesaid, It was Voted that the Town Treasurer be & he hereby is directed to replace the said Sum of Six hundred and Sixty six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence in the Town Treasury again, for the use aforesaid, as soon as he conveniently can, out of the moneys he shall receive belonging to the Town, and that he always keep the same distinct and seperate from the Towns other money, in order that it may be applied for paying the Expence of Compleating the said North Battery, & purchaseing Stores &ca. for the same, agreeable to the Design of the General Courts Grant, and that the Treasurer when he shall have so replaced said Sum, do not apply it to any other use whatever, [238.] Without particular directions from the Town.

Voted, that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby is given to the Gentlemen the Committee aforesaid for their great pains and care in Auditing the Accompts of the late Treasurer Wadsworth.

Voted that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby is given to the Honble. John Wheelwright Esqr. for his great Pains, Care and Labour in Settling the Accompts of the late Treasurer Wadsworth and transferring them into new Books.

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Voted that the Sum of Sixty six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence lawful money be allowed and paid out of the Town Treasury unto the Honble. Joseph Wadsworth Esqr. late Treasurer of the Town in full for his Salary for the year past as also for the Expences in his Office and all other Services he has heretofore done for the Town.

The Town having at their last Meeting agreed upon a Memorial to be presented to the Great and General Court or Assembly praying that they would be pleas'd to repeal an Act they lately pass'd laying a Duty on Tea Coffee, Snuff, Arrack and China Ware, and on Coaches Chariots Chaises &c^a^. for the reasons in said memorial mentioned, and Voted that the same be presented by the Selectmen accordingly. —— The said Selectmen now inform'd the Town that they presented said Memorial to the General Court at their present Sessions, but that the same was Dismiss'd by said Court. —— Whereupon the Town proceeded to Consider of that other Article in the Warrant relating to said Act vizt. what may be thought proper for the Town now to do concerning it, And after a long Debate thereon, It was Voted that, the Town will make application at home, in order to prevent said Acts being Confirm'd by His Majesty, Also Voted that

Abiel Walley Esqr.
The Hon^e^. Saml. Welles Esqr.
Charles Apthorp Esqr.
Thomas Hancock Esqr.
M^r^. John Smith
Benjamin Pratt Esqr. &
M^r^. Benjamin Kent

[239.] Be and they hereby are appointed a Committee, to Consider of the best Method the Town can take to prevent said Acts being Confirm'd at home, either by presenting a humble petition to His Majesty, or taking such other Steps as they shall Judge best, and said Committee are desired to prepare whatsoever they may think necessary for Effecting the same, and make Report of their doings hereon at the Adjournment of this Meeting.

Voted that M^r^. David Jeffries Treasurer of the Town be and he hereby is desired and fully Impowered to borrow upon Interest of any person or persons a Sum not exceeding the Sum of two hundred and Fifty pounds lawful money, for the present supply & Relief of the Almshouse, and give his Bond or Bonds as a Security for the payment of the same with the Interest thereof which Bond or Bonds the Town do hereby promise and Engage to discharge when the same shall become due.

Voted that M^r^. David Jeffries Town Treasurer be, and he is hereby directed to put in Suit at the Inferiour Court to be held at Boston in October next the Bonds that were given to the late Treasurer Wadsworth by the several Collectors of Taxes that have not paid in all such Taxes, as were Committed to them to Collect for the Year 1748 or any time before.

The Committee appointed to Consider of the Petition of D^r^. William Rand, praying for an Abatement of Sundry Taxes committed to him to Collect in the Years 1734. 1735. 1736 & 1737.

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now made Report thereon (as on file) and the same being read a Question was put whether said Report be accepted, and it pass'd in the Negative, and thereupon It was Voted that said Petition be dismiss'd.

Voted that the Assessors proceed forthwith in making the Taxes of the present year.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourned to Friday the 6th. of July next, three o'Clock in the afternoon.

Friday the 6th. of July 1750, three o'Clock in the afternoon, the Town met according to Adjournment.

[240.] The Committee appointed the 29th. of June last, to Consider of the best Method the Town can take to prevent an Act lately pass'd the Great and General Court, laying a Duty on Tea Coffee Arrack Snuff and China Ware, and on Coaches Chariots Chaises &ca. being Confirmed at home, now reported "that they had mett and maturely considered the Affair, and were of Opinion, the best method the Town can take in order to prevent the aforesaid Act being Confirm'd is, that the Town should desire some of the Principal Gentlemen here to write to their Freinds in London to Use their Interest to procure the Disallowance of said Act" —— And after a long Debate thereon, a Question was put, Whether said Report be accepted, and it pass'd in the Negative, but soon after upon a motion made and Seconded, a Question was put, Whether the Town will Reconsider their Vote last pass'd, and it was Voted in the Affirmative. And then a Question was put, Whether said Report shall be accepted, And it was thereupon Voted that said Report be Accepted with the following Amendment, vizt. that an Agent be also Chose by the Town to appear in their behalf at home in order to prevent said Acts being Confirm'd by His Majesty, and that he be properly Instructed by a Committee, to be chose by the Town, as to his Conducting this Affair.

Voted that the Town immediately proceed to the Choice of an Agent accordingly. — And the Votes being brought and Sorted, it appeared that Christopher Kilby Esqr. of London was chose. —— Then

Voted that, Abiel Walley Esqr.
The Hon^o. Samuel Welles Esqr.
Charles Apthorp Esqr.
Thomas Hancock Esqr.
M^r. John Smith
Benjamin Pratt Esqr. &
M^r. Benjamin Kent,

be a Committee to draw up Instructions for the Conduct of M^r. Agent Kilby accordingly, and they are desired to forward the same to him as soon as may be.

[241.] Voted that the Thanks of the Town be given to the Honourable James Allen Esqr. the Moderator of this Meeting for managing & Dispatching the Business thereof.

Then the Meeting was Dismiss'd

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly Qualified and lawfully warned, in publick

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Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the seventh day of January Anno Dom. —— 1750.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting . . . . Read.

Sundry Laws Read.

The Town proceeded to the Choice of the Moderator (by a written Vote) and upon Sorting the Votes it appeared that John Phillips Esqr. was unanimously chose Moderator.

The Town proceeded to Consider of the Business mention'd in the Warrant vizt. whether they will preferr a Petition to the Great and General Court at their next Sessions, praying the Town may be Exempted from paying any greater or other part of the Expence for rebuilding the Court house in Boston, than their proportion thereof, that is included in the province & County Tax. and after some Debate thereon —— A Question was put, and it was unanimously Voted that the Town do preferr a Petition to the General Court at their next Sessions for the purposes aforesaid accordingly. —— Also

Voted that the Selectmen be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to prepare a Draft of said Petition, and report the same to the Town for their acceptance, at the Adjournment of this Meeting.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourned to Wednesday the 9th. instant, three o'Clock P.M.

[242.] January 9th. 1750. Wednesday 3 o'Clock P.M. the Town met according to Adjournment.

The Committee appointed the 7th. instant to prepare a Draft of a Petition to be presented to the General Court, now reported the same in the words following Viz^{t}.

Province of the . } To the Hon^{o}. Spencer Phips Esqr. Lieut.
Massachusetts Bay } Govr. & Commander in Chief, the Honble. the Council and Rep^{ves}. of the Province aforesaid in General Court Assembled the ninth day of January 1750.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, in Town Meeting regularly Assembled January 7th. 1750.

Most Humbly Sheweth,

That your humble Petitioners have been inform'd that by a Vote of the Great & General Court in the Year 1747 It was Ordered that the Court house in Boston should be rebuilt, and that the charge thereof should be born one half, by the Province, one Quarter part by the County of Suffolk and one Quarter by the Town of Boston, and that by a Vote of the Honble. house of Rep^{ves}. pass'd the present Year, it was Ordered that the aforesaid Vote pass'd in 1747, sho'd be carried into Execution, and that the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston should be assess'd accordingly, but the Vote of the Honble. House was not passed by the Honble. Board. — As your Petit^{rs}. humbly Apprehend that they would be greatly aggreiv'd and Injur'd if the Vote of the Honble. Court in 1747 sho'd ever be pursued to Effect, they beg leave to make a short Representation of their Case to your Honours, and to lay before you their Exceptions against the said Vote.

And your Memorialist accordingly Represent that it appears

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probable from the ancient Records of the Town that about the Year 1657 a House was built on the Towns Land for the immediate Use and Service of the Town, & that the [243.] Charge thereof was born by a Subscription of the Inhabitants. —— It further appears from the Province Law made in the Year 1693. that the said House had some time before been made use of both by the Province and County as well as by the Town, and it was therefore by the then General Court thought reasonable and determin'd that the Charge of repairing the same should be born, one half by the Province, one quarter by the County of Suffolk and one quarter by the Town. —— In the Year 1711, by the Providence of God the said House was Consumed by Fire Soon after which the General Court were pleas'd in their Wisdom to appoint a Committee to Conferr with the Town upon proposals made for rebuilding said House, and upon the Proportion which the Town should bear of the Charge thereof. The Town being then destitute of any House for publick Meetings, and other publick uses, agreed to the proposals made by the General Court, with some Amendment or Alteration, and Expressed their Consent by a Vote at a General Town Meeting, and then appointed two of their own Inhabitants vizt. Thomas Brattle Esqr. and M^r. William Payne to join with the Committee of the General Court in carrying on the work; and certain parts of said house were destin'd and appropriated to the Immediate use of the Town; and the Town continued to Improve the same until October 1742. —— when Peter Faneuil Esqr. generously caused to be Erected, at his own Charge a commodious Building for the publick Use and Service of the Town, to which all the Papers and Records of the Town were soon after remov'd, & where all publick Meetings have ever since been held. And those Rooms in the Townhouse which had been appropriated to the immediate use and Service of the Town were then Improved for the Service of the General Court, and the Town have ever since been wholly Excluded from any benefit thereof, except by the Rents of the Cellars only, till it was last Consumed, and had it continued in the state it was in the Town would probably before this time have applied to your Honours to have freed them from their proportion of Charge they had before paid towards the constant Repairs thereof, But it pleas'd God in his providence in the month of December 1747. to Suffer the Townhouse to be again Consumed by Fire, and this while in the immediate use and Service of the General Court. Soon after which a Committee of the General Court conferr'd with the Selectmen of the Town concerning the Disposition of the Inhabitants as to their part of the Charge of rebuilding the same, but the Selectmen then did [244.] Not and declared to said Committee that they could not give any Encouragement that the Town would consent to any greater part thereof than their proportion of the Province Tax; and had the Honble. Court been pleas'd to make their proposals to the Town as was done by the General Court in 1712. the Town would undoubtedly have declin'd a Complyance therewith.

Now your Petitioners humbly hope, that when this their Case is Considered in all its Circumstances, your Honours will Judge

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favourably concerning it, they humbly Conceive that if the Town had not been provided with another House, the Compelling them to Rebuild & Improve this, whether they inclined to it or not, would have distinguished them from all the other Towns in the Province, who are at Liberty to Erect their publick Buildings when and where they please, and it is Evident that the General Court in 1712. thought the Town ought not to be compell'd, but that their Consent should be given; Must it not then appear to your Honours a much greater hardship that the Town should be held to pay more than their proportion in common with the rest of the Province for the Charge of building a House, which they have no manner of Use and Occasion for & when those Rooms the Town formerly had in it for several years past have been and still are wholly Improved by the Province.

Your Memorialists could Enlarge upon the unequal Proportion they Imagine they Pay to the Province Tax upon the Decrease of the Polls, Buildings and other Estate of the Town, and the declining State of their Trade, but they humbly Apprehend that without this, your Honours will be Induc'd to think favourably of this their Application, and that you will not Suffer the aforesaid Vote by which they apprehend themselves to be aggrevied, to take Effect, or that you will otherwise releive them, as to your Wisdom shall seem meet.

And your Petit^rs. as in Duty bound shall pray &c^a.

By order of the Town . . .

Which being Read, it was unanimously Voted that the same [**245.**] Be accepted, and that a fair Copy thereof be prepared and Signed by the Town Clerk in behalf of the Town and that the Selectmen be and they are hereby desired to present it to the Great & General Court accordingly.

Then the Meeting was dismiss'd.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston legally Qualified, and duly warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled, at Faneuil Hall on Monday the Eleventh day of March, A.D. 1750.

Prayer was made by the Rev^d. M^r. William Welsteed.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting . . . . . Read.

Sundry Laws . . . . . Read.

The Town proceeded to the Choice of a Moderator by a written Vote, and upon Sorting 'em, it appeared that the Honble. James Allen Esqr. was chose.

The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for a Town Clerk, and upon Collecting of 'em, there was 398 Votes, and upon sorting 'em, it appeared that Ezekiel Goldthwait was chosen by a very great Majority, having 377 Votes. —— and he was accordingly sworn in by John Steel Esqr. and he also took the Oath required by the Act of the 22^d of George the second relating to Bills of Credit.

The Petition of several Inhabitants praying the Town would Consider of the great Expence occasion'd by the Publick Schools, and determine whether one Grammer School, and two Writing Schools are not sufficient for the Education of the Children of the

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Town. — was Read, and thereupon a Motion was made by the Petitioners, and Seconded, that they may have Liberty to withdraw said Petition, and the Question being put It was Voted in the Affirmative, and said Petition was withdrawn accordingly.

Voted that the Town proceed to the Choice of seven Selectmen, [246.] And the Votes being brought in and Sorted it appeared that

Thomas Hancock Esqr.
John Steel Esqr.
M^{r}. Samuel Grant
M^{r}. Thomas Hill
M^{r}. John Gardner
Joshua Henshaw Esqr. &
M^{r}. George Holmes, were chose.

Voted that the person chose into the Office of a Constable for the Year ensuing be excused from Serving provided he pay to the Town Treasurer Three Pounds Lawful Money.

The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for a Town Treasurer and upon viewing 'em, it appeared that M^{r}. David Jeffries was unanimously Chose and sworn in by John Steel Esqr. to a faithful Discharge of his Duty in that Office, and took the Oath relating to Bills of Credit &c^{a}. ——

Voted that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given unto M^{r}. Middlecott Cooke and Capt. William Salter, who for several Years past have Served as Selectmen, for their many & faithful Services done for the Town while in that place.

Voted that the Gentlemen the Representatives of the Town be and hereby they are desired to use their Endeavours at the next Sessions of the General Court to get a Law pass'd, that the Town may have Liberty to choose (if they see cause) any greater Number of Firewards, than the Number they are already confin'd to by Law.

Voted that twelve Constables be Chose distinct from the Collectors of Taxes.

Messrs.	John Watt	Sworn
	John Doane	Sworn
	George Bethune	Paid
	Jon^{a}. Simpson	Paid in 1743
	John Amiel	Excus'd
	Uriel Rea	Sworn
	Benj^{a}. Harrod	Excus'd
	Gilbert Deblois	Excus'd
	John Crosley	Sworn

[247.] Voted that no person that has been chose into the Office of a Constable within Seven Years past, shall be again chose to that Office the ensuing Year.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourn'd to 3 o'Clock in the afternoon.

Monday 3 o'Clock in the Afternoon, the Town met according to Adjournment.

The following Gentlemen were chose Overseers of the Poor for the Year ensuing . . . . . Viz^{t}.

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The Hon°. Jacob Wendell Esqr.
William Tyler Esqr.
Col°. John Hill
The Hon°. Thomas Hubbard Esqr.
Daniel Henchman Esqr.
M^r. Edward Bromfield
Col°. William Downe
The Hon°. Andrew Oliver Esqr.
John Phillips Esqr.
M^r. Isaac Walker
Capt. Ebenezer Storer
M^r. John Barrett

The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for a County Treasurer, which being Collected, were according to Law Sealed up by M^r. Constable Doane to be by him kept, and returned to the next Quarter Sessions.

The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for a Register of Deeds and Conveyances for the County of Suffolk, which being Collected, were according to Law Sealed up by M^r. Constable Doane to be by him kept, and returned to the next Quarter Sessions.

John Hill Esqr.
John Phillips Esqr.
Capt. John Carnes
Capt. Joseph Russell
Capt. Henry Berry
Capt. James Day
Capt. Joseph Jackson
M^r. John Scollay
Maj^r. Nath'l Thwing
M^r. Royall Tyler

[248.] The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for seven Assessors and upon sorting 'em it appeared that

Messrs. Jacob Parker . . . . . Sworn
Nathl. Barber
William Fairfield
Thomas Foster
John Winslow
Peter Oliver . . . . . Sworn
John Kneeland

were Chosen.

Messrs. John White . . . . . Pay
Timothy Prout . . . . . Pay
Alex^r. Hill . . . . . Pay
Benj^a. Hammett . . . . . Pay
John Erving Junr. . . . . Pay
Jon^a. Williams . . . . . Pay

Voted that this Meeting be adjourned till tomorrow morning, nine o'Clock.

Tuesday Morning, 9 o'Clock, the Town met according to Adjournment.

M^r. Joseph Curtis } Hayward.

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Mess^r. Benj^a. Ballard, Sworne
Joseph Dyre
Benj^a. Sault
Joseph Savel Junr.
John Hobbs
Peter Cotta
Thos. Serjeant
Edward Cowell
Samuel Treat
Isaac Fowle
} Cullers of Staves.

Messrs. John Roger Sworn
Isaac Vergoose Sworn
James Barnard Junr.
John Lee Blacksmith
} Hogreeves

[249.] Messrs. William Maccarty
Joseph Edwards
Belcher Noyes
Daniel Pecker
Jonathan Payson
Robert Ford
William Pritchard
John Potter
Daniel Jones
Jabez Hunt
William Torrey
Benj^a. Fitch
} Clerks of the Market.

Messrs. Thomas Greene
Joseph Jackson
John Scollay
} Purchasers of Grain.

were chose Purchasers of Grain.

The said Committee are desired and impowered to give all needful Directions to the Keeper of the Granary respecting the Quantitys of Grain to be sold, and setting the price thereof from time to time, as Occasion shall require.

Messrs. Thomas Foster jun^r.
David Cutler
} Assaymasters.

M^r. John Gray Sworn } Surveyor of Hemp.

Messrs. David Collson
Benj: Harrod
} Informers of Deer.

The Selectmen of Boston, Sworn } Surveyor of Highways.

Nothing done thereon } Tythingmen

Messrs. Nathaniel Hodgdon
Josiah Carter
John Allen
Thomas Hartley
James Dawson
Thomas Hase —— Sworn

Sealers of Leather. [In margin]

[250.] Messrs. Benj^a. Russell
James Tileston . . . . . Sworn
Onesiphorus Tileston . . . Sworn
Thomas March

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William Moore . . . . . Sworn
Caleb Ray . . . . . Sworn

Fence Viewers. [In margin]

Messrs. William Nichols
Henry Allen . . . . . Sworn
Clement Collins . . . . . Sworn
John Grant . . . . . .
Isaac Vergoose . . . . . Same
William Paine . . . . . .
John Greenough Refuses to Swear
Andrew Simms . . . . . Sworn
Moses Eayres . . . . . Sworn
Joseph Giddings . . . . . Sworn
John Simpson . . . . . Sworn
John Low . . . . . Sworn

were chose Viewers of Boards Shingles &c^a. for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Saml. Phillips Savage
Thomas Allen . . . . Sworn.
Royal Tyler
David Jenkins . . . . Sworn.
Henry Atkins jun^r. . . Sworn.
Willm. Blair Townsend
Henry Laughton jun^r. . Sworn.
Henry Newman . . . Excus'd.
Samuel Edwards . . . Sworn
Joseph Edwards . . . Sworn
Arthur Savage . . . . Excus'd
Thomas Etheridge . . Sworn
Tim^o. Newell . . . . Sworn
Thomas Gray . . . . . .
} Clerks of the Market.

Clerks of the Market. [In margin]

Abijah Adams . . . Clerk of Faneuil Hall Market.

The Selectmen's Report on the Accompt of M^r. John Fenno keeper of the Granary for the year past, as Enter'd in his Book (and on File in the Town Clerks Office) Read & Voted that the said Report be accepted and accordingly that M^r. Fenno be further accountable to the Town for 156 bush. Corn & 334 bush. Rye being £66 : 17 : 0¾ & Cash £321 : 16 : 10. being in the whole £388 : 13 : 10¾. lawful money, all which is now in his hands, Exclusive of £20. for his Salary, & £6 : 13 : 4. for Assistance, which is hereby allowed him.

[**251.**] Voted that the sum of Twelve pence on the pound be and hereby is allowed to be paid to the Collectors of Taxes for the year ensuing, for all such Sums as they shall Collect, provided they pay unto the Town Treasurer one half part of the whole Sum they are obliged to Pay him within three months from the time of receiving the Tax Books from the Assessors, and the other half part in three months after, and also Pay to the Province and County Treasurers one half part of the whole Sums they shall be obliged to pay them respectively, in Six months from the time they receive the Books from the Assessors as aforesaid, and the other half part in Six Months after; and in case either of the said

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Collectors shall fail paying the said Treasurers in the above manner, the Collector so failing shall not be Entitled to the aforesaid allowance of twelve pence on the Pound for Collecting, but wholly forfeit the same. —— provided also, that each of said Collectors give Bond with sufficient Suretys to the Satisfaction of the Selectmen for the faithful Discharge of their Duty in that Office, and complying with this Vote.

Messrs.	Benjamin Edwards	Collectors of Taxes.
	John Grant	
	Joseph Russell	
	James Day	
	John Ruddcok	
	Thomas Downes jun^{r}.	

were chose Collectors of Taxes for the Year ensuing.

Messrs.	Shrimpton Hunt	Pay	Constables.
	John Fillis	Pay	
	John Waldo	Pay	
	John Nichols	Pay	
	William Husbands . . .	Pay	
	William Hyslop	Pay	
	William Powell	Pay	

were chose Constables for the Year ensuing.

Messrs.	William Cunningham	Pay	Constables.
	Obediah Curtis	Sworn	
	Daniel Collins	Sworn	
	Jere: Belknap jun^{r}.	Excus'd	
	Nathl. Wales	Excus'd.	
	Benj^{a}. Eaton	Excus'd.	
	Edwd. Sanders	Excus'd.	
	Saml. Procter	Sworn	

were Chose Constables for the Year ensuing.

[252.]	Messrs.	Samuel Bass . . .	Sworn	Constables.
		Richard Fisher . .	Excus'd	
		Joseph Payson . .	Sworn	
		Nathaniel Rogers .	Excus'd	
		David Bell . . .	Sworn	
		John Norton . . .	Excus'd	
		Benjamin Sumner .	Excus'd.	Constables.
		Josiah Waters . .	Sworn	

Voted that M^{r}. Thomas Greene
And^{r}. Oliver Esqr.
Thos. Hutchinson Esqr.
John Hill Esqr. &
M^{r}. William Cooper

be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to make a full and particular Enquiry into the present State of the Town, and what are the Causes of the great Expence thereof, and Consider what Method the Town can take in order to prevent or reduce the same, and said Committee are desired to make their report hereon at the Town Meeting in May next.

The Petition of Elias Dupee was read, setting forth that he was one of the Collectors of Taxes in this Town for the Years 1744.

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1745, 1746 & 1747, and took the utmost Care & Pains in Collecting such Taxes as were committed to him, notwithstanding which, by means of the great poverty of many of the Inhabitants, and others being absent at Sea, who never returned, there were considerable Sums that he could not get in, tho he has paid and satisfied the Town, County and Province for the whole of 'em, and having made no application before, now, that the Taxes of such poor and absent persons may be Abated him he prays the Town would appoint a Committee to Enquire into the Circumstances such persons were in the beforementioned Years whose Taxes he could never get, hear the Pet^r. and report to the Town what they apprehend ought in Justice to be abated him, And it was thereupon Voted that the Assessors of the Town be a Committee to Consider of said Dupees Petition, hear him thereupon, and report to the Town what Taxes ought to be abated him. Also Voted that the Selectmen give a Draft on the Treasury to said Dupee for the Premium due to him for Collecting the Taxes [**253.**] For the year 1747.

The Petition of Capt. Benjamin Edwards praying for an abatement of Sundry Taxes committed to him to Collect in the Years 1748. & 1749. was Read, Voted that the same be dismiss'd.

The Petition of William Rand, praying for an Abatement of sundry Taxes committed to him to Collect in the Years 1734. 1735. 1736. and 1737. was Read, Voted the same be dismiss'd.

Voted that the Assessors be and they are hereby allowed to Sit upon the Abatement of Taxes to the first day of June next and no longer, saving that they have Liberty to Sit the second and third Weeks in November, to Abate the Taxes of such persons as shall appear to be dead, or out of Town, and could not have made application to them therefor, before said first day of June.

The Town Entred upon the Consideration of that Article in the Warrant vizt. Whether any more effectual Method than is already prescrib'd by Law can be taken, to prevent the Disorders that are frequently committed by Negroes in the night, and thereupon Voted that the same be referr'd to Thomas Hutchinson, Samuel Welles & Benjamin Prat Esq^rs. the Committee appointed the 13th. of March last, to revise all the By Laws and Orders of the Town now in force, and they to make Report thereon.

Voted that the Province Law made and pass'd in the first Year of the Reign of her late Majesty Queen Anne, Entitled an Act to prevent Disorders in the night, be printed in all the publick Newspapers for the better Information of the Inhabitants.

The Petition of Alexander Hunt of Boston Shipwright setting forth, that the Town are possess'd of a small Peice of Land near to Forthill in Boston, adjoyning to the Petit^rs. Land in part, which has not for many Years been of any benefit to the Town, and it's likely from the Situation of it never will be, but as it is somewhat commodious to him he is willing to purchase the same of the Town and give such a Consideration therefor as they shall Judge reasonable, praying the Town would take the premisses into Consideration, and sell him the small peice of Land aforesaid for what it may be Judged worth. the same being read it was Voted that

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Messrs. Jonathan Williams [254.] Thomas Greene and Major Nathaniel Thwing be a Committee to take said Petition into Consideration, View the peice of Land petition'd for to be Sold, and Report to the Town at their meeting in May next, whether they apprehend it will be for the Interest of the Town to Sell it.

The Article in the Warrant vizt. "To Consider whether the Town will have an Engine Erected near the middle part of it, for the weighing of Hay brought in by Water." was taken into Consideration, and thereupon, it was Voted that the Selectmen be desired ta receive proposals from any persons that may offer 'em for the weighing of Hay in the middle part of the Town and report 'em to the Town at their Meeting in May next.

Voted that this Meeting be adjourn'd to three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Three o'Clock in the Afternoon the Town met according to their Adjournment.

Voted that the Honble. John Wheelwright Esqr.
M^r. Thomas Greene
M^r. Harrison Gray
M^r. Saml. Phillips Savage &
M^r. William Cooper

be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to Audit the Accompts of M^r. David Jeffries, Treasurer of the Town. —— and also the Accompts of the Overseers of the Poor, for the Year past, and they are desired to make Report thereon at the Meeting of the Town in May next.

Voted that all Matters and Things that remain unfinish'd, be and hereby are referr'd over to the Meeting of the Town in May next. to be then Considered of, and Acted upon.

Voted that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby is given to the Honble. James Allen Esqr. the Moderator of this Meeting, for managing the Affairs thereof.

Then the Meeting was dismiss'd.

[255.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly Qualified and Lawfully warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Tuesday the 14th. day of May A.D. 1751.

Prayer was made by the Rev^d. M^r. Samuel Mather.

The Precept & Warrant for calling the Meeting . . Read.

Sundry Laws . . . . . Read.

Thomas Hancock Esqr. one of the Selectmen in their Name propos'd to the Inhabitants assembled to proceed to the Choice of a person or persons to Serve for and Represent them in a Great and General Court to be held at Boston upon Wednesday the twenty ninth day of May instant, and in Order thereto, to Consider and Ascertain the Number of Gentlemen to be Elected, accordingly it was Voted to proceed to the Choice of four Representatives, and it was then declared that the Poll be clos'd at twelve o'Clock. The Votes being Collected the Number of Voters were found to be 463. and before they were Sorted, A Motion was made by M^r. Thomas Greene, and Seconded by many of the Inhabitants, that a

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Question may be put, "Whether it be the mind of the Town to Enquire of the Gentlemen that Served as Representatives the last Year, if they had received or intended to receive any Pay for Serving as Representatives the last Year," and the same being put It was Voted in the Affirmative by a very great Majority, and those Gentlemen being present, Enquiry was accordingly made of 'em, to which they answered Viz^t. James Allen Esqr. That he had not received any Pay, & was not determin'd in his own mind, whether he sho'd or not. Thomas Hubbard Esqr. "That he had not taken nor been to the Treasury for any Pay, but as the not taking Pay, was an Affair that may be attended with ill Consequences, he is inclin'd to Submit the Consideration thereof to the Town. — M^r. John Tyng" That he was determin'd to receive his Pay, and dispose of it as he tho't proper. — M^r. Harrison Gray that he was determin'd to receive his pay. — and then the Votes were Sorted & it thereupon appeared that three Gent^n. only were Chose Viz^t.

The Honble.	James Allen Esqr.	253.
	M^r. John Tyng	263.
	M^r. Harrison Gray	300.

and then the Inhabitants withdrew and brought in their Votes for [256.] Another Representative, and upon Sorting 'em it appeared that the Honble. Thomas Hubbard Esqr. was chose by a great Majority.

The Election of Representatives being over, and the same declared by the Selectmen.

The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for a Moderator, and upon Sorting 'em it appeared that the Honble. Thomas Hubbard Esqr. was chose by a great Majority.

Voted, That this Meeting be adjourn'd to three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Three o'Clock in the Afternoon the Town met according to Adjournment.

The Report of the Selectmen on the Visitation of the Publick Schools Read, and is as follows vizt.

To the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston in Publick Town Meeting Assembled May 14th. 1751.

Pursuant to a Vote of the Town of Boston at their Meeting the 15th of May last, desiring the Selectmen to Visit the several Publick Schools, and Invite such Gentlemen to Accompany them therein, as they sho'd think proper, do now Report.

That on the 22^d. day of June last, We attended that Service accompanied with the following Gentlemen Viz^t.

The Hon^o. Edward Hutchinson Esqr.
The Hon^o. John Osborne Esqr.
The Hon^o. Ezekiel Lewis Esqr.
The Hon^o. Jacob Wendell Esqr.
The Hon^o. Samuel Watts Esqr.
The Hon^o. John Wheelwright Esqr.
The Hon^o. Thomas Hutchinson Esqr.

The Gentlemen the Representatives of Boston.

The Rev^d. M^r. Thomas Prince
The Rev^d. M^r. Samuel Checkley

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The Rev^{d}. D^{r}. Charles Chauncey
The Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Ellis Gray
The Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Andrew Eliot
[257.] William Tyler Esqr.
Henry Atkins Esqr.
Col^{o}. John Hill
M^{r}. Josiah Quincy
M^{r}. Thomas Flucker
M^{r}. James Bowdoin
M^{r}. David Jeffries

And found that in the South Grammer School there were 117 Schoolars, in the Writing School 260 Scholars, in the Writing School in Queen Street 93 Scholars, in the North Grammer School 43 Scholars, in the North Writing School 267 Scholars, all in very good Order.

THOMAS HANCOCK
SAM^{L}. GRANT
THO^{S}. HILL
JN^{O}. GARDNER
} Selectmen of Boston.

Voted that this Report be Accepted, and that the Gentlemen the Selectmen be desired to Visit the Publick Schools the Year ensuing, & that they Invite such Gentlemen to Accompany them, as they shall think convenient, and Report thereon.

The Petition of George Lamott of Boston Fisherman, setting forth, that for several Years he has sold fresh Fish at the Market at the head of the Town Dock, which place has been improved for that use for a long Course of Years, & has been found greatly convenient to the Inhabitants, but there being no House or Shed to Skreen the Fish from the Heat in Summer, great Quantitys of it are often spoil'd, a considerable Loss is thereby occasion'd to the Petit^{r}. as well as to the Publick. The Petit^{r}. therefore proposes to the Town to Erect a small Building at his own Expence on or near the place where the Fish have heretofore been sold, as the Town shall think proper, which will be a means of preventing any Loss of Fish in Summer, and Securing the Inhabitants that come there to buy Fish from the Inclemencys of the Wheather in Winter, and as he shall carry off every thing that may be offensive, he prayed the Town would give him Liberty to Erect said Building accordingly — said Pet^{o}. being Read, It was thereupon Voted that said Petition be referr'd to the Selectmen, & they be & hereby are impowered to give Liberty to said George Lamotte (if they see cause) to Erect a Building on such a place at the head of the Dock as they shall Direct, for the purposes mentioned in his Petition, the same to Continue so long, as the Selectmen for the time being shall Judge proper, and to be under their Regulation.

[258.] The Petition of James Fairservice praying the Town would Regulate the Market for the Sale of Hay & Sand, was Read &

Voted that the Town will not Sustain said Petition.

The Town Enter'd upon the Consideration of the Petition of sundry Inhabitants praying that the Encroachment's made on the highway leading from Hudson's point Southwesterly to the Mill

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Stream by Mr. Gee's Building yard called Ferry-way may be removed, and said way repair'd, and after some Debate thereon It was Voted that the Selectmen be and hereby are appointed a Committee to Consider of said Petition enquire particularly into the circumstances of said way, what the Expence of repairing it will amount to, and receive proposals from any of the Inhabitants, as to their paying any part of the Charge of repairing the same, & Report hereon at the Adjournment of this Meeting.

Voted, a Grant of Four Thousand Pounds lawful money, to be rais'd by a Tax upon Polls and Estates within the Town of Boston for relief of the Poor, and defreying other necessary Charges, arising within said Town the year ensuing.

The Honble. John Wheelwright Esqr. & others a Committee appointed the 12th. of March last to Audit the Accompts of Mr. David Jeffries Treasurer of the Town, now reported, that they had attended that Service and found the Accompts right cast and well Vouch'd, and the said Treasurer Charges himself with what was remaining due from the several Collectors last Year, with the Stock of Grain, Powder &c^a. & what he had received from the late Treasurer Wadsworth as also for a new Tax for the Year 1750, with Several Fines received from the Justices &c^a. & Rent's, all which Amount to £8782,,10,,6¾ & the said Treasurer discharges himself with the Draughts remaining unpaid in the late Treasurer Wadsworths time, also for what he has already paid of Draughts from the Selectmen and Overseers, & with several abatements, made the Collectors &c^a. all which amounting to £6421,,10,,2¼ by which it appears that when all the Taxes and Rent's are paid in, the Ballance will be twenty three hundred & sixty one pounds & four pence half penny due to the Town, which the said [259.] Treasurer further is to account for as appears by the Trial Ballance on the other side of said Report, which is on File, all which is humbly Submitted &c^a. — Which being Read, Voted that the same be and hereby is accepted.

The Committee appointed the 12th. of March last, to make Enquiry into the present State of the Town, and the Causes of the great Expence thereof, and Consider what Method the Town can take in order to prevent or Reduce the same, now reported, that they had met and attended that Service & having particularly Inspected the Accompts both of the Selectmen and Overseers of the Poor, agreed upon the whole to Report as follows Viz^t.

1st. That the Charge of supporting the several Publick Schools amounted the last Year to more than ⅓ part of the whole Sum drawn for by the Selectmen; but altho. this Charge is very Considerable, & the number of Schools is greater than the Law requires, Yet as the Education of Children is of the greatest Importance to the Community; the Committee cannot be of Opinion that any Saving can be made to Advantage on that head; except the Town should think it expedient to come into Methods to oblige such of the Inhabitants who send their Children to the Publick Schools and are able to Pay for their Education themselves, to ease the Town of that Charge by assessing some reasonable Sum upon them for that purpose.

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2dly. There are one or two Lesser Articles in the Selectmens Accompts in which the Committee apprehend there be some Saving, as in Reducing the Number of Bells daily rung, and at different hours of the day, the Committee being of Opinion that two Bells rung in different parts of the Town vizt at 5 in the morning, one at noon, & nine in the Evening, together with the Bell at the Opening of the Market would be sufficient.

3dly. And the Charge of Purchasing and Supporting Bulls, the Committee are of Opinion ought not to lie upon the Town in general, but upon such Inhabitants only as keep Cows therein.

4thly. The Committee have likewise Considered the several Articles of Charge in the Accounts of the Overseers of the Poor, but know of no Reduction that can be well made therein, except it be in the Doctors Accompts, in which they apprehend there might be considerable Saving if a Box of Medicines were laid in at the Almshouse put up and bought at first hand, out of which the Towns Physician should Administer to his Patients [260.] Without Doors as well as those within.

5thly. The Overseers having likewise laid before the Committee a List of persons confin'd in the Workhouse & made a State of that Account, the Committee are of Opinion that the Draughts made upon the Treasurer for the Support of that House is occasioned by the number of distracted, helpless & infirm people supported therein, who must otherwise have been a Town Charge, and that Exclusive of these Subjects the Workhouse is of little or no Expence to the Town

But considering the great Charges the Town is at, the Committee humbly move that it be Recommended to all who have the disposal of the Town's moneys to be as frugal as the nature of the respective Services, and the Interest of the whole will admit.

All which is humbly Submitted.
THO^s. GREENE in behalf and by desire of the Committee.

Which being Read, Voted that each Paragraph of said Report be taken into Consideration seperately, and by it self, and thereupon the first Paragraph was Debated, and the following Question put Viz^t. Whether the Town will come into any Alteration or other method than they now have relating to the Schools. ——Voted in the Negative, & that, that Paragraph of said Report be not Accepted.

Then the Second Paragraph in said Report, was Debated, and Voted that the same be accepted, and that no Bells be rung for the future but the Bell at the old North Church, the Bell at D^r. Sewall's Church Viz^t. at the hours of five, one and nine o'Clock, and the old Brick Church at the hour of Eleven.

Then the third Paragraph was Debated, & Voted that the same be Accepted, and that the Charge of purchasing and supporting the Bulls, shall be paid by such of the Inhabitants only as keep Cows, and the Selectmen are desired to take such Methods as may be necessary for obliging the Inhabitants accordingly.

Then the fourth Paragraph was Debated, & Voted that the same be Accepted, and that the Overseers of the Poor be & hereby

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they are desired to provide a Box of Medicines for the use of the Almshouse &c^a^. and also take any other method they shall Judge necessary for reducing the Expences of the [261.] Town in Supporting the Almshouse.

Then the fifth Paragraph was Read & Voted that the same be Accepted.

On a Motion made and Seconded, Voted that the several Masters of the Publick Grammer Schools and Writing Schools in the Town be directed not to refuse taking into their respective Schools, any Child or Children that may be brought to 'em for Education, in case Enterance money (so called) is not paid said Masters, and also that they shall not demand any Pay or Allowance for Instructing such Children, as belong to the Town, and that attend in School hours only.

Also Voted that the Selectmen for the time being give Directions to said Masters what money they may receive from the Scholars, for defreying the Expence of Firing.

Voted that the Sum of One hundred and twenty pounds lawful money be allowed and paid to M^r^. Peleg Wiswall for his Salary as Master of the North Grammer School for the ensuing Year, the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due, and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the Sum of One hundred and twenty pounds lawful money be allowed and paid to M^r^. John Lovel for his Salary as Master of the South Grammer School for the Ensuing Year, the same to be paid him quarterly as it shall become due, and to Commence from the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the sum of Eighty pounds lawful money be allowed and paid to M^r^. Samuel Holyoke for his Salary as Master of the South Writing School in Queen street for the ensuing Year, the same to be paid him quarterly as it shall become due, and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the sum of One hundred pounds lawful money be allowed and paid to M^r^. Abia Holbrook for his Salary as Master of the South Writing School, for the ensuing Year, the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due, and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the Sum of One Hundred pounds lawful money be allowed and paid to M^r^. Zachariah Hicks as Master of the North Writing School, for the ensuing Year, the same to be paid him quarterly as it shall become due, and to Commence at the Expiration [262.] Of the last Quarter.

Voted that the sum of Fifty pounds lawful money be allow'd and paid to M^r^. Nathaniel Gardner as Usher of the South Grammer School for the ensuing Year, the same to be paid him quarterly, as it shall become due, and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the sum of Fifty pounds lawful money be allowed and paid to M^r^. Samuel Holbrook as Usher of the South Writing School for the ensuing Year, to be paid him quarterly as it shall become due, and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Year.

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The Town being inform'd that William Tyler and William Downe Esq^{rs}. & M^{r}. Isaac Walker who for several Years past have been Overseers of the Poor, and into which place they were chose the Eleventh of March last, decline Serving any longer, Voted that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby is given to those Gent^{n}. for their faithful Services to the Town while they continued in that Office.

Voted that three other Persons be chose in their Room, & the Votes being brought in and Sorted, it appeared that

Messrs. John Franklyn
Joseph Sherburn, &
John Tudor, were chose.

The Petition of William Larrabee and John Ruddock praying for an Abatement of sundry Taxes committed to them to Collect in the Years 1747. 1748. 1749. was Read, and thereupon It was Voted that the Assessors be a Committee to Consider of said Petition, hear the Petitioners and Report to the Town what Taxes they apprehend ought in Justice to be Abated 'em.

The Committee appointed the Eleventh day of March last to Consider of the Petition of M^{r}. Alexander Hunt, now reported, that they had Viewed the Land in said Petiti^{o}. mentioned, and were of Opinion that said Pet^{o}. ought to be dismiss'd, for that the said Hunt has set his House on the two rod way belonging to the Town, and has also in possession Fifty three feet of the Towns Land making in the whole Eighty six feet in wedth, and Two hundred and fifty eight feet in depth, besides the Flatts which [263.] Is Two Hundred feet more in depth, for which said Committee apprehend the Town ought to have Satisfaction for. —— Which Report being Read.

Voted that the same be Accepted, and that said Petition be dismiss'd.

Voted that the Selectmen be and hereby they are appointed a Committee to Consider the State of the Ferry called Winnisimet Ferry, Report the same to the Town as soon as may be.

The Article in the Warrant vizt. whether the Town will choose a Committee to prosecute any person or persons that have made any Encroachment's on their Lands near Fort hill or any other part of the Town, was taken into Consideration, and after some Debate thereon, It was Voted that ——

M^{r}. Jonathan Williams
M^{r}. Thomas Greene &
Maj^{r}. Nathl. Thwing

be and they hereby are appointed a Committee, and fully Authorized and Impowered for and in behalf of the Town to prosecute in the Law any person or persons that have made any Encroachments on the Towns lands near to, or adjoyning upon Forthill so called, that so the Town may obtain Possession of their Lands, unless said Committee can Accomodate and Settle the same with such persons as have made said Encroachment's, and if so, that then said Committee report to the Town, at the Adjournment of this Meeting, the proposals made 'em for such an Accomodation.

Andrew Campbell was chose a Constable & . . . . Sworn.

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Voted, That Thomas Gray who was chose a Clerk of the Market in March last, be Excus'd from Serving in that Office the Ensuiug Year.

Voted that John Mico Wendell, serve as a Clerk of the Market, in the room of Thomas Gray who is Excus'd.

The Article in the Warrant vizt.

"To Consider the State of the North Granary house, & what is best to be done concerning it, was taken into Consideration, and thereupon Voted, that the Selectmen be and hereby they are Impowered to Sell said House or otherwise dispose of it as they shall apprehend will be most for the benefit of the Town.

The Committee appointed the Eleventh of March last, on the [**264.**] Petition of Elias Dupee, made their Report, which was read, and after some Debate thereon, It was Voted that said report be recommitted to said Committee, and they are desired to make particular Enquiry into the Circumstances of such persons whose Taxes they have now reported, ought to be abated, and further Report hereon at the Adjournment of this Meeting

Voted that the Sum of Sixty six Pounds thirteen shillings and four pence lawful money be allowed and paid out of the Treasury unto M^{r}. David Jeffries, as Treasurer out of the Town for the Year past, Also Voted that the further Sum of Thirty Pounds be allowed and paid to M^{r}. Jeffries for his extraordinary time Care and Trouble in Setling and Transferring the Accompts, Books &c^{a}. of the Treasury, since he has been in that Office.

Voted that the Sum of Twenty Pounds lawful money be allow'd and paid to M^{r}. Abijah Adams for his Services as Clerk of Faneuil Hall Market the Year past.

Voted that this Meeting be adjourn'd to Friday the 14th. of June next at three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

The fourteenth day of June at three o'Clock in the afternoon the Town met according to Adjournment.

The Committee appointed the 14th. of May last to reconsider the Petition of Elias Dupee praying that sundry Taxes may be Abated him, now made their Report, that the Taxes of sundry persons who are therein particularly named, ought in Justice to be Abated the Petitioner, and after some Debate on said Report, It was Voted that the same be accepted, and that the sum of forty six pounds fifteen shillings lawful money, be abated to the Petitioner and the Selectmen are directed to give said Dupee a Draft for that Sum on the Treasury accordingly.

The Committee appointed the 14th. of May last, to Consider of the Petition of William Larrabee and John Ruddock praying that Sundry Taxes may be abated them, now made their Report that the Sum of Six pounds three shillings & a penny lawful money be abated to M^{r}. Larrabee, and the sum of twelve [**265.**] Pounds two shillings and ten pence lawful money be abated M^{r}. Ruddock which being read, Voted that the same be Accepted, & that those Sums be abated the Petitioners accordingly, and the Selectmen are directed to give 'em Drafts on the Treasury for the same accordingly.

The Committee appointed the 14th. of May last, to Consider of

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the Petition of sundry Inhabitants praying that the Encroachments made on the highway leading from Hudson's point Southwesterly to the Mill stream by Mr. Gee's Building Yard called Ferryway may be removed and said way repair'd, now reported, that they had attended the Services therein mention'd, and found that in the account taken of the Streets and Lanes within the Town, as Enter'd in their Book of Records in 1708. there is a street called Ferryway and is there said to lead along the Shore from Hudson's point, Southwesterly to the Mill stream by Mr. Gees Building Yard, and that in the same Year, they found by the Selectmens Minutes that they ordered said Way sho'd be of the Breadth of Lynn street being two rods wide, and which is all they could find relating to said way. They also Reported that they had View'd said Way and found it much out of Repair, and that by a Computation made (and with said Report presented) it will Cost about Two hundred and Sixty six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence lawful money to repair it. That several of the Inhabitants have subscrib'd a considerable Sum towards repairing the same, and said Committee Judge that if the same was repair'd it would be very beneficial to the Inhabitants of the Northerly part of the Town, and also that it will be a great Encouragement to the Petitioners and Subscribers to proceed in repairing said Way, if the Town would assist them, and grant them such a Sum of money as may be tho't proper towards Compleating and Effecting it, which Report being Read, after some Debate thereon It was Voted that the same be Accepted. Also Voted that Twenty four feet in wedth of said Way be repaired (the several Subscriptions for paying part of the Charge for repairing be made good) Also Voted that the Sum of One hundred and thirty three pounds six shillings and eight pence lawful money be paid by the Town towards repairing the same way, the Petitioners and Subscribers paying the remainder of the whole Charge of repairing said way, Also Voted that there be a Committee chose; distinct from the Selectmen to repair it, and that Capt. Tho: Jas. Gruchy, Capt. Nathl. Greenwood, Mr. John Ruddock, Capt. Jonathan Snelling, M. Gammon Stevens, Capt. Alexander Sears & Mr. Newman Greenough be the said Committee. —— Also Voted that if any part of said Sum of One [266.] hundred and thirty three pounds six shillings and eight pence sho'd be paid to said Committee before said way shall be fully repaired and Compleated, they shall give Security to the Town to refund and pay back the same to the Town in case said repairs shall not be made and Compleated to the Satisfaction of the Selectmen.

Voted that all Matters and Things that remain unfinished be referr'd over to the next town Meeting to be then acted upon.

Then the Meeting was Dismiss'd.

At a a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly Qualified and lawfully warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Friday the fourteenth day of June A.D. 1751. at four o'clock P.M.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting . . . . . Read.

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The Honble. Thomas Hubbard Esqr. was chose Moderator for this Meeting.

The Town proceeded to take into Consideration the Business of this Meeting as mentioned in the Warrant vizt. "Whether the Town will preferr a Petition to the Great and General Court now sitting praying that the sum of nine hundred twenty six pounds seven shillings and ten pence being a Quarter part of the Charge of repairing the Court-house and which they are ordered to Pay by said Court may be remitted, and after some Debate thereon, It was Voted that the Town will preferr such a Petition accordingly And the Selectmen thereupon Informing the Town that they had prepar'd a Petition for that Purpose, the same was Read, and is in the words following Viz^t^.

Province of the Massachusetts Bay } To the Honourable Spencer Phips Esqr. Lieu^t^. Governour & Commander in Chief, the Honble. the Council and Represent^tves^. of the Province aforesaid in General Court Assembled June 1751.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston in Town Meeting regularly Assembled June 14th. 1751.

[267.] Most humbly Sheweth,

That your humble Petitioners have been inform'd by their Assessors, that they have received a Warrant from the Province Treasurer, requiring them forthwith to Assess on the Polls and Estates within this Town the Sum of nine hundred and twenty six pounds seven shillings and ten pence being one Quarter part of the Charge of Building the Townhouse in Boston, Sett on said Town by order of the General Court, that this Information gave great Concern to your Petitioners who had made their application to the General Assembly of the last Year, praying that said Order might not pass but they were so unhappy as to fail of the desired Success, Their apprehensions of the Difficulty and Distress that must come upon them by so heavy, and with all deference to the Wisdom of the General Court they beg leave to Say, unequal Assessment, are very much increas'd, and it would be a failure in point of Duty to themselves if they should neglect any means in their power for their Relief. They therefore again with one Voice intreat your Honours they may be free'd from this Burthen, that the Petition they preferr'd the last Year may be reviv'd for the Reasons which were then offer'd in said Petition and such additional Reasons as may be now offered by their Representatives may be duly Considered by your Honours and such Relief afforded your Petitioners as to your Justice and Goodness shall seem mete.

And thereupon it was Voted unanimously that a fair Copy of said Petition be prepar'd and signed by the Town Clerk in behalf of the Town, and that the same be Represented by the Representatives of the Town to the General Court accordingly.

Voted that all Matters and Things continu'd to this Meeting be referr'd further to the next Town Meeting to be then Considered of, & Acted upon.

Then the Meeting was Dismiss'd.

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[268.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and lawfully warned in Publick Town Meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Friday the fifteenth day of November A.D. 1751.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting was . . . . Read.

John Phillips Esqr. was chose Moderator.

Upon a Motion made and Seconded, It was Voted that this Meeting be adjourn'd to Wednesday the 20th. inst. at three o'Clock in the afternoon.

Wednesday the 20th. day of November 1751 3 o'Clock P.M. the Town met according to their Adjournment.

The Town proceeded to the Business of the Meeting as mention'd in the Warrant vizt. to Choose Collectors of the Taxes of the present Year in the room of such persons as were chose in March last and refuse to Serve, and upon bringing in & Sorting the Votes it appeared that the following persons were chose vizt.

Messrs. Jabez Hunt
Joseph Bradford
Jonathan Payson

M^{r}. Hunt and M . Bradford being present desired the Town would Excuse them for reasons by them given to the Town whereupon It was Voted that they be Excus'd accordingly.

Then the Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for two other Collectors, and upon sorting 'em it appeared that.

Messrs. John Jones of Treamount Street &
Josiah Quincy, where chose

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourned to Tuesday the 26th. instant at ten o'Clock A.M. to receive the answers of the Collectors now chose.

Tuesday the 26th. of November 1751, at ten o'Clock A.M. the Town met according to their Adjournment.

Josiah Quincy, appeared and prayed the Town would [269.] Excuse him for Reasons he gave, Voted that M^{r}. Quincy be Excus'd accordingly.

John Jones sent word by the Constable that he would nôt Serve as a Collector of Taxes in the Town.

Jonathan Payson, Accepted of said Office.

Then the Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for two Collectors of Taxes and upon Sorting 'em it appeared that,

Messrs. Hopestill Foster &
James Scutt, were chose.

And they Declaring their Acceptance of said Office,

The Meeting was Dismiss'd.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly Qualified and lawfully Warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the ninth day of March A.D. 1752.

Prayer was made by the Reverend M^{r}. Andrew Eliot.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting, Read.

Sundry Laws . . . . . Read.

The Town proceeded to the Choice of a Moderator by a written.

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Vote, and upon Sorting 'em it appeared that the Honble. James Allen Esqr. was chosen.

Ezekiel Goldthwait was unanimously chose Town Clerk for the Year ensuing, and was Sworn into that Office by John Steel Esqr. having first taken the Oath required by the Act of the 22^{d}. of his present Majesty, relating to Paying and Receiving Bills of the other Governments.

Voted that the Town proceed to the Choice of seven Selectmen and the Votes being brought in and Sorted it appeared, That,

[270.] Thomas Hancock Esqr.
John Steel Esqr.
M^{r}. Samuel Grant
M^{r}. Thomas Hill
Joshua Henshaw Esqr.
M^{r}. George Holmes &
Capt. Joseph Jackson, were chose.

Voted, That the Town proceed to the Choice of twelve Constables distinct from the Collectors of Taxes.

Voted, that any Person chose into the Office of a Constable for the Year ensuing be Excus'd from serving provided he pay into the Town Treasury Three Pounds Lawful Money.

Messrs. Nathaniel Parkman	Excus'd.
James Pike	Excus'd.
John Giles	Excus'd.
John Mico Wendell	Excus'd.
Nathaniel Barber jun^{r}.	Pay.
Isaac Walker jun^{r}.	Pay
Ebenezer Storer jun^{r}.	Pay.
William Cooper	Pay.
Timothy Marrow	Excus'd.
Joseph Waldo	Pay.
William Dennie	Paid in 1747.
Cornelius Thayer	Pay

were Chose Constables for the Year Ensuing.

The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for a Town Treasurer, and upon Viewing of 'em it appeared that M^{r}. David Jeffries was unanimously chose. And he was Sworn to the faithful Discharge of his Duty in that Office by John Steel Esqr. having first taken the Oath required by the Act of 22^{d}. Year of his present Majesty relating to Paying or Receiving Bills of Credit &c^{a}.

The Hon^{o}. Jacob Wendell Esqr.
Col^{o}. John Hill
[271.] The Hon^{o}. Thomas Hubbard Esqr.
Daniel Henchman Esqr.
M^{r}. Edward Bromfield
The Hon^{o}. Andrew Oliver Esqr.
John Phillips Esqr.
M^{r}. Isaac Walker
Capt. Eben^{r}. Storer
M^{r}. John Barrett
M^{r}. Ebenezer Storer
M^{r}. John Tudor

were Chose Overseers of the Poor for the Year ensuing.

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Voted that the Town Enter into the Consideration of the Article in the Warrant relating to the Shutting up of Faneuil Hall Market, at five o'Clock this Afternoon.

The Committee appointed in March 1749, Viz^t. Thomas Hutchinson, Samuel Welles and Benjamin Prat Esq^rs. to revise all the By-Laws and Orders pass'd by the Town that are in force, and Correct the same as they think proper &c^a. now reported that "having spent some time in Revising the By-Laws and having agreed upon a great number of Alterations and Additions which they had not then been able so far to settle or compleat as was necessary in order to there being laid before the Town for their acceptance; and before the Report was perfected, the Committee thought it convenient to propose to the Town two Points for their Determination First, That inasmuch as the penalty of Twenty Shillings which is the Greatest Sum that can be annex'd to the Breach of any By-Law, was in some cases insufficient, application should be made to the General Court at their next Sitting praying them to enable the Town to pass Laws with a Penalty not exceeding Forty shillings Lawful money. Secondly, That as a Body of By-Laws however well adapted to the Circumstances of the Town will be of very little Service unless they are more duly Executed than the By-Laws have been for many Years past, therefore that further Application should be made to the General Court [272.] Praying them to Impower the Selectmen of the Town for the time being or the Major part of them, at their Weekly Meetings to Judge and Determine upon all Offences against the Laws of the Town, which priviledge the Town enjoy'd from their first Settlement during the Charter of the old Colony of the Massachusetts Bay and the Committee were of Opinion this would be a probable Means of a due Execution of the Laws which for many Years past has been very much neglected. All which is humbly Submitted to the Town.

THO^s. HUTCHINSON
SAMUEL WELLES
B. PRAT

Read and Voted that the same be accepted, & said Committee are desired to prepare a Bill for the purposes mentioned in said Report, and give it to the Gentlemen the Representatives of the Town, who are hereby desired to use their Endeavours to get the same pass'd into a Law.

Col^o. John Hill
John Phillips Esqr.
Capt. John Carnes
Capt. Joseph Jackson
Capt. Henry Berry
Capt. James Day
M^r. John Scollay
M^r. Royal Tyler
M^r. John Tudor
Capt. Isaac Freeman

were chose Firewards for the Year ensuing.

Voted that the Representatives of the Town be and hereby are desired to use their utmost Endeavours to get a Law pass'd the

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General Court at their next Sessions, that the Town may for the future be Enabled to choose twelve Firewards.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourn'd to 3 o'Clock this Afternoon.

[273.] Monday 3 o'Clock in the afternoon the Town met according to their Adjournment.

Messrs.	Israel Eaton	Sworn
	William Gray	Pay
	John Armstrong	Sworn
	John Durant	Pay
	John Pattin	Sworn
	John Barber	Excus'd
	Edward Gyles	Pay
	William Thomas	Sworn
	John Bridge	Sworn
	William Shepard	Excus'd
	Thomas Hunt	Pay
	Abraham Rogers	Excus'd

were chose Constables for the Year ensuing.

Messrs.	Joseph Edwards	Sworn
	Thomas Allen	Sworn
	John Mico Wendell	Sworn
	Cornelius Thayer	Sworn
	John Phillips jun^{r}.	Sworn
	Charles Deming	Sworn
	William Davis	Sworn
	John Morley	Sworn
	John Gore	Sworn
	John Leverett	Sworn
	Daniel Oliver	Sworn
	Jonathan Mason	Sworn

were Chose Clerks of the Market for the Year ensuing.

N°. 1. Capt. Thos. James Gruchy
Capt. Henry Pigeon Excus'd
N°. 2 Capt. Jon^{a}. Snelling
M^{r}. Francis Archbald
N°. 3. John Breck
N°. 3. Joseph Gardner
N°. 4. Nathaniel Holmes.
Nathaniel Loring
N°. 5. John Wells
James Adams
[274.] N°. 6. Benjamin Dolbeare
Joseph Green, in Hanover Street.
N°. 7. John Welch
Eph^{m}. Copeland
N°. 8. William Story
Joshua Blanchard
N°. 9. John Hunt
John Beacham
N°. 10. Samuel Hill
William Torrey

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N°. 11. Thomas Cushing
Edward Winter
N°. 12. John Eliot
Benjamin Greene
were Chose Tything Men for the Year ensuing.

Voted that a Porch be built at the South Entrance of the Grammer School whereof Mr. John Lovel is Master, and the Selectmen are desired to Effect the same in the best manner they can.

The Petition of sundry Inhabitants praying the Town would determine whether the way leading from Orange street between the Dwelling house of Capt. Craister and Mr. Clough to the highway leading to the Common is a publick highway, was taken into Consideration, and after so Debate thereon,

Voted that said Petition be Dismiss'd.

The Petition of Sundry Inhabitants praying that the Bell at the Revd. Messrs. Weelsted & Gray's Meeting house at the North end of the Town may be rung at Eleven o'Clock in the forenoon, as has been heretofore practised, was Considered of, and thereupon Voted that the same be accordingly Rung at that hour until the Town Order otherwise.

The Town considered of the Petition of Dr. Sylvester [275.] Gardiner praying that the Town would Lease to him for the term of thirty three Years, the Marsh & Sunken Lands at the bottom of the Common upon the Terms he therein proposes Vizt. That he will Damm out the Sea from said Marsh and Lands, so that the whole may become dry and good Ground, the Town allowing him to Set the Fence near the Brow of the Hill, adjoyning to said Marsh, running from South to North, and across a little Ridge or Hill that divides the North part of the Marsh from a Sunken pond below the powder house, so as to include said Pond in the Lease, all which he will perform in three Years, otherwise said Lease shall be Null and Void, and the Land revert to the Town, and after some Debate thereon, Voted that said Petition be Dismiss'd.

On the Petition of Nathaniel Barber as Admor of the Estate of Capt. Benjamin Edwards decēd, and of John Grant, praying for an Abatement of Sundry Taxes committed to said Edwards to Collect in the Years 1747. 1748. 1749. 1750. and to said Grant, for the Years 1748. 1749. 1750. as in said Petition is set forth, Voted that the Assessors of the Town be & hereby they are appointed a Committee to Consider of said Petition, hear the Petitioners, and Report what they Apprehend ought in Justice to be abated the Petitioners; At the General Town Meeting in May next.

The Petition of Sundry Inhabitants, praying that Faneuil Hall Market may be Shut up for so long time as the Town shall Judge to be for their Interest, was Considered of, & after some Debate thereon, It was Voted that said Market be Shut up until the General Town Meeting in May next.

Also Voted, That Samuel Welles Esqr. Mr. William Cooper, Mr. Harrison Gray, Colo. John Hill & Mr. Ezekiel Goldthwait, be a Committee to Consider what Method is best for the Inhabitants

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to take in order to Reduce the present Excessive price of Provisions, and to prevent the persons, that bring Provisions for Sale to Town, Incumbering the Lands & [276.] Highways about and near to Faneuil Hall Market and the Nusances on Dock Square, and Report as soon as may be.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourned to, To-Morrow morning nine o'Clock.

Tuesday 9 o'Clock in the forenoon, the Town met, according to their Adjournment.

Messrs. Joseph Dyre
Robert Treat
Samuel Treat
Benjs. Ballard
Jonathan Jenkins
Isaac Fowle
Joseph Savel Junr.
Edward Potter Junr.
John Hobbs &
Benjamin Sault

were Chosen Cullars of Staves & Cs. for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. John Lee
Isaac Vergoose
Story Daves & . . . Sworn.
Clement Collins . . . Sworn.

were Chosen Hogreeves, for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. William Maccarty
James Cunningham
Daniel Coney
Arthur Savage
Henry Perkins
After Stoddard
Alexander Hill
Moses Deshon
Richard Billings
Nathaniel Loring
John White &
James Gridley

were Chosen Scavingers for the Year ensuing.

[277.] Messrs. Joseph Jackson
John Scollay &
Thomas Greene,

were Chosen Purchasers of Grain for the Year ensuing.

The said Committee are desired and Impowered to give all Needful Directions to the Keeper of the Granary, respecting the Quantitys of Grain to be Sold, and setting the price thereof from time to time as Occasion may Require.

Messrs. Thomas Foster &
David Cutler

were Chosen Assaymasters for the Year ensuing.

Mr. John Gray, was Chose Surveyor of Hemp, for the Year ensuing.

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Messrs. Nathaniel Gardner &
Benjamin Harrod
were Chosen Informers about Deer, for the Year ensuing.

The Selectmen of Boston. ——

Messrs. Jacob Parker
Nathaniel Barber . . . Sworn.
William Fairfield
Thomas Foster
John Winslow
Peter Oliver, &
John Kneeland
were Chosen Assessors, for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Samuel Hastings . . . Sworn.
John Allen
Josiah Carter
Thomas Hartley
Eliakim Blackman & . . Sworn.
Nathaniel Hodgdon . . Sworn.
were Chosen Sealers of Leather for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Thomas March . . . . Sworn.
Caleb Ray
Francis Warden
William Moore
Onesiphorus Tilestone &
James Tilestone,
were Chosen Fence Viewers for the Year ensuing.

[278.] Messrs. Robert Ford . . . . Sworn
William Nichols
Clement Collins . . . Sworn
Henry Allen
Story Dawes . . . . Sworn
William Paine
Andrew Simmes . . . Sworn
John Grant
Moses Eayres
John Low
Isaac Vergoose & . . Sworn
John Greenough
were Chosen Viewers of Boards, Shingles &c^a. for the Year ensuing.

M^r. Joseph Curtis was chosen an Haward, the Year ensuing.

Voted that Twelve pence on the pound be and hereby is allowed to be paid to the Collectors of Taxes for the Year ensuing, for all such Sums as they shall Collect, provided they pay unto the Town Treasurer, one half part of the whole Sum they are obliged to pay him within three Months from the time of receiving the Tax Books from the Assessors, and the other half part in three Months after, and also pay to the Province and County Treasurers one half part of the whole sums they shall be obliged to pay them respectively in six months from the time they shall receive the Books from the Assessors as aforesaid and the other half part in six months after; And in Case either of the said Collectors shall

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fail paying the said Treasurers in manner as above, the Collector so failing shall not be Entitled to the aforesaid allowance of twelve pence on the pound for Collecting, but wholly forfeit the same, Provided also that each of said Collectors give Bond with sufficient Suretys to the Satisfaction of the Selectmen for the faithful Discharge of their Duty in that Office, and complying with this Vote.

[279.] Messrs. Thomas Ramar . . remov'd out of Town
Luke Roberts . . . Sworn
Robert McNeil . . . Sworn
Thomas Gyles . . . Excus'd
Richard Walker . . Sworn
John Edwards . . . Excus'd
Bartholomew Rand . Excus'd

were Chosen Constables, for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. John Ruddock
Hopestill Foster
Joseph Russell
Thomas Downe jun^r.
James Scutt
Jonathan Payson . . . . Sworn

were Chosen Collectors of Taxes for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. John Provence . . . . Sworn
John Shepard . . . . Excus'd
William Roberts . . . . Sworn
Samuel Burt . . . . . Excus'd.
Ebenezer Wallis . . . . p^d. in 1747.
Samuel Ridgaway . . . Excus'd
Messrs. Joseph Kent . . . . . Sworn
William Todd . . . . Sworn

Constables. [In margin]

The Selectmen's Report on the Accompt of M^r. John Fenno Keeper of the Granary for the Year past, as Enter'd in his Book (and on File in the Town Clerks Office,) Read, and Voted that the said Report be Accepted, and accordingly that M^r. Fenno be further accountable to the Town for forty bushels of Indian Meal, & thirty bushels of Rye, am^o. to £9,, 18,, 8 & also for Three hundred & Seventy Pounds nineteen Shillings & five pence half penny, being in the whole Three hundred & Eighty pounds, eighteen shillings & one penny half penny lawful money, all which is now in his hands, exclusive of £26,, 13,, 4. for his Salary, and Assistance, which is hereby allowed him.

The Committee appointed to Audit the Accompts of M^r. David Jeffries Treasurer, now reported, that they had attended that Service, & find the same right cast and well Vouch'd, and [280.] The said Treasurer charges himself with sundry Justices Fines, with the Rent's and Incomes of the Town and with the Taxes committed to the Collectors, amounting in all to £6943,, 16,, 3½, and the said Treasurer Discharges himself by sundry Abatements made the Collectors, by what he has already paid of the Selectmens and Overseers Draughts, and by what remains unpaid of said Draughts amounting in all to £4046,, 2,, 2 by which it

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appears that when all the Taxes, Rents &c^{a}. are paid in, the Ballance will be twenty eight hundred and ninety seven pounds fourteen shillings & one penny which the said Treasurer is further to accompt for, as appears by the Trial Ballance of said Accompt, given in by said Committee, and on file. Which Report being Read, Voted that the same be Accepted.

The Selectmen having prepared a List of all such of the Inhabitants as are Qualified by Law to Serve on the Petit Jury of Trials at the Superiour and Inferiour Courts, presented the same to the Town, and after they were Sorted for the respective Boxes, Voted that their Names be put into said Boxes as now Sorted to serve as Jurors accordingly.

Voted, That the Assessors be and they hereby are Impowered to Sit upon the Abatement of Taxes to the first day of June next and no longer, saving that they have Liberty to Sit the second and third Weeks in November next, to Abate the Taxes of such persons as shall appear to be Dead, or out of Town, and could not have application to them before said First day of June.

Voted, that the Hon^{o}. John Wheelwright Esqr.
Joshua Winslow Esqr.
M^{r}. Thomas Greene,
M^{r}. Harrison Gray, &
M^{r}. William Cooper.
be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to Audit the Accompts of M^{r}. David Jeffries Treasurer of the Town [281.] And also the Accompts of the Overseers of the Poor, & they are desired to make Report thereon as soon as they have done the same.

Voted that this Meeting be adjourn'd to three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Three o'Clock in the afternoon, the Town met according to their Adjournment.

Voted that the Sum of One hundred and twenty Pounds lawful money be allowed and paid to M^{r}. Peleg Wiswall for his Salary as Master of the North Grammer School for the Ensuing Year, the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due, and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the Sum of One hundred and twenty pounds lawful money be allowed and paid to M^{r}. John Lovel for his Salary as Master of the South Grammer School for the Ensuing Year, the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due, and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted, That the Sum of Eighty Pounds lawful money be allowed and paid to M^{r}. Samuel Holyoke for his Salary, as Master of the Writing School in Queen Street for the Ensuing Year, the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due, and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the Sum of One Hundred Pounds Lawful money be allowed and paid to M^{r}. Abia Holbrook for his Salary as Master of the South Writing School the Ensuing Year, the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due, and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

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Voted, that the Sum of One Hundred Pounds lawful money be allowed and paid to Mr. Zachariah Hicks for [282.] his Salary as Master of the North Writing School the Ensuing Year, the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due, and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted, That the Sum of Fifty Pounds Lawful money be allowed and paid to Mr Nathaniel Gardiner for his Salary, as Usher to the South Grammer School, the ensuing Year, the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due, and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted, That the Sum of Fifty Pounds Lawful money, be allowed and paid to Mr. Samuel Holbrook for his Salary, as Usher of the South Writing School, for the Ensuing Year, the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due, and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted, That the Sum of Fifty Pounds lawful money be allowed and paid to Mr. John Procter junr. for his Salary, as Usher of the North Writing School, the Ensuing Year, the same to be paid him Quarterly as it shall become due, and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

The Town proceeded to take into Consideration that Article in the Warrant Vizt. "What reasons should be given to the General Court; why the Bridge leading over Neponsit River, ought not to be Declared a County Bridge, and maintain'd by the County." and after some Debate thereon, Voted that the

Honble. Samuel Welles Esqr.
Richard Dana Esqr.
Mr. Benjamin Kent
Colo. John Hill &
Mr. Thomas Greene

be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to Consider of this Affair, and draw up such Reasons as they shall [283.] Judge proper; why the aforesaid Bridge ought not to be a County Bridge and maintain'd by the County & said Committee are desired and Impowered to preferr the same to the General Court at their next Sessions, in the name & behalf of the Town.

The Town Considered of what was best to be done with the Lands and Buildings at the head of the Dock formerly Leas'd to Mr. John Dolbeare, whose Term therein is Expired, and after some Debate, Voted that this Affair be referr'd to the Selectmen, who are hereby desired and Impowered to proceed and act hereupon as they shall Judge most for the Interest of the Town.

The Committee appointed Yesterday to Consider what Method is best for the Inhabitants to take, in order to Reduce the present Excessive price of Provisions, and to prevent the persons that bring Provisions for Sale to Town, Incumbring the Lands and highways about and near to Faneuil Hall Market and the Nusances on Dock Square, now made Report (as on File) which was Read and Accepted, and thereupon it was Voted that as many of the Principal Inhabitants, as can be conveniently applied to, be desired to Agree and Sign to a Subscription now laid before the Town by a Committee to be for that purpose appointed for to prevent the

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Extravagant Price of Provisions, more particularly of Flesh, and that the Selectmen after the Expiration of Five Weeks, the time propos'd to Subscribe for, be desired to make a Judgment or Apprizal of the Common Necessarys of Life at their Weekly Meetings, and publish the same from time to time in the Weekly prints.

Also Voted, that inasmuch as there are great numbers of Carts, Drays, and other Lumbersome Instruments for Conveying Loads, frequently gathering & long continuing in Dock Square so called, many times for greater part of the Day, to the great Annoyance not only of those whose Dwellings border on said Square, but also to others His Majesty's good Subjects, who frequently pass and repass there with much Difficulty & Danger —— Therefore the Selectmen are hereby [284.] Desired to take the most Effectual Methods for clearing and preventing Obstructions and Nusances as aforesaid in said Square, and that the Expence the Selectmen are at, be born by the Town.

Also Voted that Messrs. Nathaniel Barber, William Cooper, Royal Tyler, William Bowdoin, Thomas Cushing, Robert Watt and William Blair Townsend be a Committee to obtain a Subscription of the Inhabitants, relating to the price they will give for Provisions &c^a.

Voted, That this Meeting be Adjourn'd to Monday the Sixteenth Instant, 3 o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Monday the Sixteenth day of March 1752. three o'Clock in the afternoon, the Town met according to their Adjournment.

The Several persons that were chose the ninth instant to Serve as Tythingmen appeared and said they were ready to Serve in that Office, if they could do it with out taking the Oath, declaring they cou'd not take it with a good Conscience, and for that reason pray'd the Town would Excuse 'em, and after some Debate thereon, It was Voted, the said persons be and hereby they are Excus'd from Serving as Tythingmen for the reason they have given, Viz^t. "that they could not with a good Conscience take the Oath of a Tythingman as required by Law.

Upon a Motion made and Seconded by a great number of Inhabitants, that the Town would reconsider the Vote of Dismission pass'd on D^r. Silvester Gardiner's proposals for taking a Lease of the Marsh Land at the Bottom of the Common, It was Voted, that the same be Reconsidered, and after some Debate upon said Proposals, It was Voted that the Selectmen be & they hereby are appointed a Committee to take such Method as they shall think best for informing the Town, what [285.] Land it is, that D^r. Gardiner would take a Lease of, either by staking out the same, or taking a Plan thereof, & Report thereon at the General Town Meeting in May next, that so the Town may proceed thereon as they shall Judge most for their Interest.

Voted that the Sum of Twenty Pounds lawful money be allowed and paid out of the Treasury to M^r. Abijah Adams in full for his Services as Clerk of Faneuil Hall Market the Year past.

The Committee appointed at this Meeting to obtain Subscriptions of the Inhabitants for reducing and setling the Price of Pro-

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visions, return'd their Lists, and it thereby appeared that upwards of three hundred persons had Subscrib'd, & then It was Voted that all such as have Subscrib'd, or that shall hereafter Subscribe be and they hereby are desired not to purchase any provisions upon or near Dock Square.

Voted that all Matters that remain unfinish'd be referr'd to the General Town Meeting in May next, to be then Considered of, and acted upon.

Voted that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to the Honble. James Allen Esqr. the Moderator of this Meeting, for managing and Conducting the affairs thereof.

Then the Meeting was Dismiss'd.

[286.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston legally Qualified & duly warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Tuesday the twelfth day of May A.D. 1752.

Prayer being made by the Rev^d^. M^r^. Samuel Cooper.

The Precept & Warrant for calling the Meeting, Read.

Sundry Laws, Read.

Thomas Hancock Esqr. one of the Selectmen in their Name propos'd to the Inhabitants Assembled to proceed to the Choice of a person or persons to Serve for & Represent them in a Great and General Court or Assembly to be held at Concord on Wednesday the twenty seventh day of May current, and in order thereto, to Consider & Ascertain the Number of Gentlemen to be Elected, accordingly It was Voted to proceed to the Choice of four Representatives and it was then declar'd that the Poll be clos'd at twelve o'Clock.

The Votes being Collected, the Number of Voters were found to be 327 and upon Sorting' em it appeared that the following Gentlemen were Chose, Viz^t^.

The Honble. James Allen Esqr.	202
The Honble. Thomas Hubbard Esqr.	270
M^r^. John Tyng	175
M^r^. Harrison Gray	204

The Election of Representatives being over, and the same being Declared by the Selectmen,

The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for a Moderator & upon Sorting the same it appeared that the Honble. James Allen Esqr. was Chose.

Voted, that this Meeting be Adjourn'd to 3 o'Clock in the Afternoon.

[287.] Afternoon, the Town met according to their Adjournment.

The Report of the Selectmen on the Visitation of the Publick Schools, Read, and is as follows,

To the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston in Town Meeting Assembled May 12th. 1752.

Pursuant to a Vote of the Town of Boston at their Meeting the 14th. of May last, desiring the Selectmen to Visit the Several pub-

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lick Schools, and Invite such Gentlemen to Accompany them therein, as they should think proper, do now report,

That on the 19th. day of June last, we attended that Service accompanied by the following Gentlemen Vizt.

The Honble. Jacob Wendell Esqr.
John Wheelwright Esqr.
Andrew Oliver Esqr.
Thomas Hutchinson Esqr.
Stephen Stewall Esqr.
The Gentn. the Repres. of Boston
The Revd. Dr. Joseph Sewall
Mr. Thomas Prince
Mr. William Weelsted
Mr. Samuel Mather
Mr. Mather Byles
Mr. Samuel Cooper
Daniel Henchman Esqr.
John Phillips Esqr.
Mr. Middlecott Cooke
Capt. William Salter
Mr. Edward Bromfield
Mr. James Boutineau
Mr. John Barrett
Mr. David Jeffries
Capt. Hugh McDaniel

And found that in the South Grammer School there were 120 Scholars, in the South Writing School 270 Scholars, in the Writing School in Queen Street there were 90 Scholars, in the North Grammer School 49 Scholars, and in the North Writing School 265 Scholars, all in very good Order.

JOHN STEEL
SAMr. GRANT
THOMAS HILL
JOSHUA HENSHAW
} Selectmen of Boston.

Voted that this Report be Accepted, and that the Gentn. the Selectmen be desired to Visit the Publick Schools, the Year [288.] Ensuing and that they Invite such Gentn. to Accompany them as they shall think convenient & Report thereon.

The Petition of sundry Inhabitants praying that some Method may be taken to prevent so great a Number of persons selling strong Drink in Town as now do, was Read and after some Debate thereon It was Voted, that Thomas Hubbard, William Tyler, Samuel Welles, John Phillips and Jacob Wendell Esqrs. be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to Consider of said Petition, and Report what is necessary for the Town to do thereupon.

Voted a Grant of Five Thousand pounds lawful money to be rais'd by a Tax upon Polls and Estates within the Town of Boston for the Releif of the Poor, and defreying other necessary Charges, arising within said Town the Year ensuing.

Voted that the Sum of One hundred pounds lawful money be allowed and paid to Mr. David Jeffries in full for his Salary & Services done as Treasurer of the Town the Year past.

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Whereas the Right Honourable Alexander Lord Colvill, Commander of His Majesty's Ship Sucess has upon all Occasions during his Station here, for about three Years past, discovered the utmost readiness to do every thing in his Power for promoting the Interest of the Province, and of this Town in particular, and by his Conduct and good Services has given great Satisfaction to the Town, and the Freeholders and the Inhabitants taking the same into Consideration, propos'd & thereupon unanimously Voted that the Thanks of the Town be, and hereby are Given to his Lordship for his aforesaid Services & good Conduct during his Station here, and the Gent^n. the Selectmen are desired to wait upon his Lordship, and in the Name of the Town present him with their Thanks accordingly.

[289.] The Petition of Isaac Dupee, Solomon Kneeland and others relating to their Lands near Oliver's Dock, was Read & thereupon It was Voted that Joshua Henshaw Esqr. M^r. Joseph Lee, & Isaac Gridley Esqr. be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to Consider of said Petition, and the Matters therein Contain'd and Report to the Town at the Adjournment of this Meeting what they apprehend will be best for the Town to do on the Affair.

The Petition of a great Number of the Inhabitants, praying that the Town would now Consider and Determine whether Faneuil Hall Market shall be open'd, or further shut up, was Read, and after a long Debate thereon, It was Voted that said Market be Continued shut up until the further Order of the Town.

The Petition of James Fairservice relating to the Sweeping of Chimnies was Read, & he thereupon desired Liberty to withdraw it, which was allow'd him & he withdrew it Accordingly.

The Town proceeded to Consider of that Article in the Warrant Viz^t. "What application is necessary to be made to the General Court to Relieve the Town under their present Distressing Circumstances," And it was thereupon Voted, that,

Samuel Welles Esqr.
Abiel Walley Esqr.
Daniel Henchman Esqr.
John Hill Esqr. &
John Phillips Esqr.

Be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to Consider of this Affair, and are desired to prepare a Draft of a Petition to the General Court, therein representing in the strongest Terms the present distressing Circumstances of this Town, on every Account, as they shall Judge proper, praying for Relief &c^a. & make Report thereof at the Adjournment of this Meeting.

The Committee appointed by the Town at their Meeting in March last, to Consider of the Proposals made by Dr. Sylvester [290.] Gardiner of taking a Lease of the Marsh belonging to the Town at the bottom of the Common, now made their Report as follows Viz^t.,

Boston ss. To the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston in General Town Meeting, Assembled May 12th. 1752.

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We the Subscribers being appointed a Committee by the Town at their Meeting in March last, to Consider of the Proposals made by Dr. Sylvester Gardiner of taking a Lease of the Marsh belonging to the Town at the bottom of the Common, do now report as followeth, Vizt.

That we have Viewed said Marsh & duly Considered of the Affair to us referr'd, and are of Opinion that it will be for the Advantage of the Town to Lease to said Dr. Gardiner for the Term of Thirty one Years that part of said Marsh and Land that is contain'd within the following Bounds vizt. the same to begin at the Westerly Corner of Pleasant Street and to run from thence to a Knowl that is about the middle of the pasture of the late Colo. Thomas Fitch, at about twenty feet distance from the Marsh, from thence running on a Line to a Rock that is at the North-easterly End of Ridge Hill, and from thence running on the Southerly bottom of the Hill, into the Sea, said Gardiner to have Liberty of going to and from the same thro. the publick Streets only. The Town reserving thereout the Hill called Fox Hill for their own use and Benefit, with free & full Liberty of passing and repassing to and from the same at all times during the Lease with Carts, Teams &ca. as they may have occasion, the said Gardiner to hold the same during the Term aforesaid, upon the Condition & Consideration of his Paying to the Town Yearly and every Year during the Lease Five Shillings, and also Erecting & Compleating within Seven Years a strong sufficient Bank or Sea Wall for keeping out the Water to the Satisfaction of the Selectmen, & on failure hereof that said Marsh return to the Town, & that at the Expiration of the Lease he deliver up the same to the Town in good Repair.

THOS. HANCOCK
JOHN STEEL
SAML. GRANT
JOSH. HENSHAW
JOSH. JACKSON
} Selectmen of Boston.

[291.] And after some Debate thereon, It was Voted that the Consideration of said Report be referr'd to the Adjournment of this Meeting.

Messrs. John Grant
Samuel Edwards &
Benjamin Church

were Chose Assessors of Taxes for this present Year, in the Room of Mr. Thomas Foster deced, — Mr. Jacob Parker gone out of Town, & Mr. John Winslow, who declines Serving, they being Chose to that Office in March last.

The Committee appointed the ninth of March last to Consider of the Petition of Capt. Nathaniel Barber as Admr. to the Estate of Capt. Benjamin Edwards deced, — and of Mr. John Grant, late Collectors of Taxes &ca. now Reported that they Judg'd the sum of £29,,0,,10 lawful money ought to be abated to said Edwards's Estate, and the sum of £7,,15,,2½ lawful money ought to be abated to said John Grant, Which being Considered of, It was Voted that said respective Sums be abated them accordingly; and

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the Selectmen are desired to give them Drafts for the same on the Treasury.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourn'd to Friday the 22d. inst. at three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Friday the 22d. of May 1752. 3 o'Clock P.M. the Town met according to their Adjournment.

The Selectmen Inform'd the Town, that agreeable to their Vote the 12th. inst. they had waited upon the Right Honble. Alexander Lord Colvill, and return'd him the Thanks of the Town as Express'd in said Vote, and at the same time gave him a Copy of the Vote, to which his Lordship gave the following Answer in writing Vizt.

Gentlemen,

I am extreamly sensible of the Honour done me by the Metropolis of America, and had I known six months ago, how well the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of this great Town were affected towards me, I Would have applied to the Lords [292.] Commissioners of the Admiralty, to be continued on this Station; But as 'tis now too late, I can only say; that whenever the American Stations are to be releived, I shall think myself happy if I can return to a Country which has already given me such Marks of Esteem and Regard.

Boston May 18. 1752. COLVILL.

Voted that his Lordship's answer be Enter'd upon the Records of the Town.

The Committee appointed the 12th. Inst. to Consider of the Petition of Isaac Dupee *Dupee*, Solomon Kneeland & others, now Reported, That they had met the Petrs. aforesaid and fully heard 'em on behalf of themselves; and the other persons who claim the Lands in said Petition mentioned and also fully heard Mr. William Torrey the Original Deft. and upon the whole do Report as our Opinion that the said Petitioners and Claimers, had not sufficient notice given 'em of the Law Suit aforesaid, and for want thereof could not defend their Right & Interest in said Lands (if they had any) therefore, that Justice may be done in the premisses and to prevent unnecessary Expence either to the Town, or said Claimers. We apprehend it will be best to referr the Claim of each to the Determination of such persons as may be mutually chose, they to hear, and finally Judge upon the same, as thô. no Action had been brought, or Judgment given in favour of the Town and Claimers to enter into Bonds to abide by such Determination, all which is humbly Submitted by,

JOSHUA HENSHAW
JOSEPH LEE
ISAAC GRIDLEY

And after some Debate thereon It was Voted that the Consideration of said Report be referr'd to the General Town Meeting in March next.

The Committee appointed the 12th. Instant to Consider of the Petition of sundry Inhabitants praying that some method [293.] May be taken to prevent so great a number of persons selling Strong Drink as now do, Reported, That in their Opinion. The

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Number of Licens'd House are too many, more than are either necessary or convenient, and many of them (as they are now used) are nothing but Common Nusances, and unless suppressed, threaten the utter Distruction of the morals of this People, and that if Twenty persons were approbated to be Innholders, and Sixty persons more for Retailers of strong Drink within the Town, it would be fully sufficient, or Convenient —— And

Whereas there are at present 36 Innholders & 126 Retailers within the Town, but the Persons thus Licens'd are constantly dying, The Committee further Report, that if the Selectmen were desired not to grant any new Licenses nor approbate any in the Room of those who may die, until their Number be Reduc'd to what is hereby reported to be either necessary or convenient, it would in time effectually remedy the Evil complained of, & in the End be of great Service to the Town, more especially, if in their approbations they would have regard that the persons thus Licens'd be of the best Characters & so situated in the Town as best to answer the necessitys thereof.

THOMAS HUBBARD
WILLIAM TYLER
SAMUEL WELLES
JOHN PHILLIPS. } Com^es.

And after some Debate thereon, It was Unanimously Voted that said Report be accepted, and that the Selectmen for the time being be and they hereby are desired to Conform to the Method proposed in said Report so far as they shall Judge it to be for the Convenience and Interest of the Town.

The Committee appointed the 12th. Instant to prepare the Draft of a Petition to the General Court representing the present distressing Circumstances of the Town, praying for Relief &c^a. now Reported, a Draft that they had prepared, being in the words following

To the Honourable Spencer Phips Esqr. Lieu^t. Governour [294.] And Commander in Chief, The Honble. the Council & House of Representatives in General Court Assembled May 27th. 1752. The Petition of the Town of Boston. —

Humbly Sheweth,

That the Inhabitants of said Boston are in great Distress on many Accounts, & beg Leave to open and lay before your Honours their Calamitous Circumstances; And,

That which is most apparent & Pungent, is the present prevailing, contagious and mortal Sickness, which God in his righteous Providence, hath sent among them, the Number of such as have been sent to their graves by it, have pass'd thrô' it, and been rais'd up, and of those who now Labour under it, is, about six thousand & about Three or Four Thousand more in all probability, will be Visited with it, This Expence only, if there be allowed but thirty shillings lawful money to each person, for Physicians Apothecarys, Nurses, Watchers and other Attendants, extraordinary Fire, Candles and other unavoidable Charges, will amount to an Hundred Thousand pounds old tenor, and perhaps about a Thousand persons have moved out of Town on account of this

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infectious & dangerous distemper, whose Charges at the lowest computation must also be considered at thirty shillings lawful money each head, which adds above Ten Thousand pounds old tenor to the Gross Sum, divers of which persons, may probably never return, but Settle out of Town, as was the Case in the last time of the Small Pox, and if it should be thus, the Loss to the Town, will be much greater; and with this Raging Sickness and Losses by Death and Desertion, there is almost a total decay and Extirpation of Trade & Commerce, the only means of the Town's Subsistance.

These Considerations, These Complicated Afflictions are the more distressing, because they found the Town in very unhappy circumstances, occasioned by Great & Growing Difficulty's, they struggled under before, particularly,

The great Decay of Ship-Building, & the Distilling Business, these are almost the whole Manufacture, the [295.] Town of Boston ever pretended to carry on, and till of Late, almost all Ships, especially of large burthen, were Built in this Town; Whereas for some Years past, Two Tonns of Shipping have been built out of Town, to one in Town, and at Newbury, Five times as much as in Boston in proportion to the bigness of the Two Towns.

As to the Distillery, six Still Houses are wholly unoccupied and there is not one in the Town, fully & steadily Employed and most of them not half improved, owing not only to the great increase of Still Houses at Rhode Island, and to great Numbers very lately erected at New York and Philadelphia, but also too many set up in this Province, at Charlestown, Plymouth, Nantucket, Salem, Newbury, Watertown, Haverhill and Medford, and from Nantucket a considerable Trade is thereby carried on, abroard, to Newfound Land & elsewhere, which Island of Nantucket was not long since wholly supply'd from this Town of Boston with Rum and the other things too, which they now import themselves; And by means of the Fishery, a considerable European Trade is carried on from Marblehead and elsewhere, and the very men in Boston, who heretofore supply'd the Fishery and Traders is at Marblehead and elsewhere, now buy great part of their Supply of English goods of those, to whom, but a very few Years since they used to Furnish all the English or European Goods those persons had, but it is however a considerable Ease to the Town of Boston to observe, that although so much of their Trade and Manufactures be gone from them, they are not gone out of the Province.

The Town would humbly pray Liberty further to observe, that the Excise on Tea, Coffee &c^a^. in a charge peculiarly lying on them, where almost the whole of the Publick Revenue is raised, out of the easiest, readiest, and cheapest refreshment, the Inhabitants of Boston, can take in a Morning.

They Cannot but further take notice, with your Honour's leave, that the late practice of Killing the Meat used in the Town of Boston, in the Town's round about them, has greatly thinned and weakned their Inhabitants, insomuch, [296.] That Whereas heretofore and not long since, this Town had above Thirty Butchers, many of which carried on very large Business; Those

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Town Butchers kill'd much of the small meat, and all the large Beasts, almost without a single Exception, Whereas now Boston has but two or three of this Occupation, to kill either great or small meat, and they all put together, dont carry on so much Business, as some one of the thirty Butchers did formerly, and with these Butchers, the Town has lost in a great measure, the Tanning, Currying and Shoemaking Business, in which they formerly supply'd themselves and much of the Country, but now have not enough for themselves, but receive Hides, Tallow, Skins, and Shoes from other Towns.

The Town of Boston would beg leave finally to observe, that great Difficulty has risen in the Commerce of the Town, by the late Change of the Medium, the Inhabitants of Boston would by no means object against or find fault with the Act and Order of the Great and General Court, but how necessary and wholsome soever, this might be to the Province in General, it is most certain, that since this Change, The Town of Boston has almost wholly, lost their Trade to Connecticut and Rhode Island.

These things as they have lessened their number of Rateable Inhabitants about a Thousand, from between three and four Thousand, to between two and three Thousand, so they have greatly increas'd their Poor to such a Degree, that the Charge of the Poor has risen from a Thousand or Fifteen Hundred Pounds, to Ten Thousand Pounds old tenor, in but a short time; Ten Thousand Pounds was raised last Year for the Poor, & this Year much more will be wanting, beside private Charity, which is tho't to be as much or more than the Poor's Tax.

Upon the whole Considering how much our numbers are lessened, the great Loss and Stagnation of Trade, the consequent and necessary increase of our Poor, the universal Distressing, and Expensive Sickness, the Cost of which only [297.] Must this Year be much above an hundred Thousand pounds old tenor, The Town humbly pray and hope, your Honours will Compassionate their Case, and make them some Grant out of the Province Treasury, Remit or Lessen their Tax, or some other way grant them relief, as to your Honours great Wisdom, Equity and Goodness, shall seem meet, and your Petitioners, the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, as in Duty bound,

Shall ever pray &c^a.

Which was Read, and thereupon It was Unanimously Voted that a fair Copy of said Petition be prepar'd & Sign'd by the Town Clerk, and that said Committee present the same to the Great and General Court now Sitting.

The Committee appointed the ninth day of March last to draw up Reasons to the General Court why the Bridge leading over Neponsit River ought not to be declared a County Bridge, and maintain'd by the County, Inform'd the Town that they had drawn up such Reasons as they Judg'd proper, and presented 'em to the General Court, and desired Liberty to Read a Copy of said Reasons given in to the General Court, which were Read, Voted that the same be Enter'd upon the Records of the Town.—— the same being as follows Viz^t.

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To the Honourable Spencer Phips Esqr. Lieu^{t}. Govr. & Commander in Chief, The Honble. the Council, and House of Representatives in General Court Assembled at Cambridge April 2^{d}. 1752. —— The Answer of the Town of Boston, to the Petition of the Town of Dorchester, praying that the Bridge over Neponsit River, near the Paper Mill may be the Charge of the County of Suffolk,

Humbly Sheweth,

That your Respondents readily acknowledge the said Bridge to be of great use & benefit, & that considerable Repairs are now much wanting, But they apprehend that this Bridge ought from time to time to be built and repaired by the Town of Dorchester & Milton, between which Towns it is situate, for in this manner, [298.] The other Bridges in this County and thro. the Province are generally erected and maintain'd; Nor can we find, after Diligent enquiry, that any Bridge in any other County, thro. the whole Province, is or has been built or repaired at the Charge of the County.

The Building and maintaining Bridges over the Water in Rivers, is very much of the same nature and for the same purpose of accommodating Travellers and other passengers, as the putting in order and repairing highways upon the Land, and by the General usage of the several Towns thro. the Province, are at the Charge of each Town, where such highways and Bridges, are, and if this be reasonable in General, it is peculiarly so, as to this particular bridge, for it is between the two considerable Towns of Dorchester and Milton, & therefore as the Cost is divided, it cannot ly heavy upon them especially, if we remember the advantage of such a number and variety of Mills, such a plenty of Fish & such convenient water carriage to and from Market as they are accommodated with, by the River, this Bridge Crosses.

Your Respondents would beg leave, humbly to observe that the Town of Boston is at much more Charge in proportion to their Numbers, as to Bridges, Causways and Streets or highways, than the Towns of Dorchester or Milton; the Cost of the Draw Bridge, the Bridge in Middle street and the long and difficult Causways over the Neck with the paving and Repairs of other Streets, is out of all proportion beyond the Charge of Dorchester and Milton as to this and all other Bridges and Highways in those Towns, and the Case seems to be considerably the same with most if not all the other Towns in the County of Suffolk; It will be found by a strict Observation and Comparison that scarce any Town in the County have so little Charge lying on them in proportion to their Circumstances, as the two Towns of Dorchester and Milton, without considering their advantage of Mills, Fish, and Water Carriage to Market, as abovementioned. [299.] It is probable, that it will be alledg'd, that this Bridge has been a Charge to the County, & it cannot be deny'd; But it was not built at first by the County, but by the Towns of Dorchester and Milton, with the Assistance of some particular Men; when or how it came to be a Charge to the County is more easy to Guess than to Affirm; But Certain it is, that for Sixty Years past it could not legally be made a Charge

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to the County; For the Law has given the Court of General Sessions of the Peace no such power, and if there was any such power under the former Constitutation, the present Legislature's taking it away, or not renewing it is a sufficient Intimation that it ought not to Exercised and it seems high time now, to observe the Direction.

It is also objected, that this Bridge is not of such peculiar Service to Dorchester, being at the extremity of the Town were the Inhabitants more seldom pass, but your Honours will Consider that this is the Case of many other bridges which yet other Towns Erect and Repair, & Dorchester Inhabitants when they have occasion pass over them, & no reason can possably be given why other Towns should provide Bridges and keep them in repair, Circumstanced as this Bridge is, for Dorchester Inhabitants, and the Town of Dorchester not be obliged to provide in the same manner for the Inhabitants of those other Towns.

Upon the whole, The Town of Boston humbly begs your Honour's leave to move, that as it appears to be neither Legal nor equitable, that the County should be charg'd with the repairs of this Bridge; That the Petition of the Town of Dorchester may be Dismiss'd, and the Towns of Dorchester and Milton be obliged to repair their Bridges, and keep them always in good order as other Towns, much less able are necessitated to do.

And your Respondents shall ever pray &c^{a}.

The Report of the Committee made the twelfth Instant on the proposals of D^{r}. Sylvester Gardiner for taking a Lease of the Marsh Lands at the Bottom of the Common was now Read again, and after a short Debate thereon [**300.**] It was Voted that said Report be and hereby is accepted.

Also Voted that the Selectmen or a Major part of them be and they hereby are Impowered to Execute Leases to said Sylvester Gardiner of such part of the Marsh and Lands at the Bottom of the Common as are particularly mention'd and bounded in said Report, & upon the same Terms mention'd in said Report, and in case said Gardner shall refuse to Accept thereof on those Terms, Voted that said Selectmen be and they hereby are Impowered to Lease out the said Lands for the same Term, to any other person or persons that will Accept thereof upon the Terms aforesaid.

Voted that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to the Honble. James Allen Esqr. the Moderator of this Meeting for transacting the Affairs thereof.

Then the Meeting was Dismiss'd.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston legally Qualified & duly warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Friday the twenty eighth day of August A.D. 1752.

The Warrant For calling the Meeting, Read.

Sundry Laws, Read.

The Honble. Thomas Hubbard Esqr. was Chose Moderator of this Meeting.

The Town took into Consideration the Business of this Meeting mentioned in the Warrant Viz^{t}. " Whether Faneuil Hall Market

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shall be now open'd, or Continue shut up," and after a long Debate thereon, It was Moved [301.] And Seconded by many, That the following Question may be put, vizt. "In what manner the Town will Determine whether Faneuil Hall Market should be now open'd or Continue Shut up," and the same being put to the Town It was thereupon Voted, That it be determin'd by a written Vote, and that such of the Inhabitants as are for opening said Market write, Yea, and such as are against it write, Nay, and thereupon the Inhabitants were directed by the Moderator to withdraw and bring in their Votes in that Manner, and the Votes being accordingly brought in & Sorted, it appeared that the Numbers of Voters were 231. and that there were 102 Yea's, & 129 Nays.

The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes, for two Firewards and upon sorting 'em it appeared that

M^{r}. Thomas Jackson jun^{r}. &
M^{r}. Newman Greenough, were chose.

Then the meeting was Dismiss'd.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly Qualified and lawfully warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the twelfth day of March Anno Dom. 1753.

Prayer being made by the Rev^{d}. D^{r}. Sewall.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting Read.

Sundry Laws . . . . . Read

The Town proceeded to the Choice of a Mhderator by a written Vote, and the Votes being brought in and Sorted it appeared that the Honble. James Allen Esqr. was chose.

Ezekiel Goldthwait was chose, Town Clerk for the ensuing year and was sworn into that Office by the Honble. Jacob Wendell Esqr. having also taken the Oath required by the Act of the 22^{d}. Year [302.] Of his present Majesty, relating to paying and receiving Bills of the other Governments.

Voted, that the Town proceed to the Choice of Seven Selectmen, and the Votes being brought in and Sorted, it appeared that,

Thomas Hancock Esqr.
John Steel Esqr.
M^{r}. Samuel Grant
M^{r}. Thomas Hill
Joshua Henshaw Esqr.
Capt. Joseph Jackson
M^{r}. Joseph Green, were chose.

M^{r}. Joseph Green chose a Selectmen, refuses to Serve.

The Petition of many Inhabitants praying that the Town will determine upon a certain hour, when they will take into Consideration the Sum to be rais'd for defreying their publick Charges; Also that for the future the Overseers of the Poor annually Exhibit to the Town, a List of the names of such persons as receive any part of the Towns moneys, or any Support from them; and that the Committee who shall be chose to Audit the Accompts of the Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor and Town Treasurer, be expressly directed and impowered to Inspect every particular account

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of the moneys Expended for the use of the Almshouse, and every other Branch of the publick Charges, and that the same be printed, that so those who pay the Taxes may see how the extraordinary charge of the Town arises Was read — And after a long Debate thereon, the following Question was put "Whether the Prayer of the Petition should be granted?" and it pass'd in the Affirmative.

Voted that this Meeting be adjourn'd to three o'Clock in the afternoon.

Monday 3 o'Clock in the Afternoon, the Town being Assembled.

[303.] Voted that the Town proceed to the Choice of a Selectman in the room of Mr. Joseph Green who refuses to Serve, and the Votes being brought in and Sorted it appeared that,

Mr. Thomas Cushing, was chose.
The Hon°. Jacob Wendell Esqr.
Col°. John Hill
The Hon°. Thos. Hubbard Esqr.
Danl. Henchman Esqr.
Mr. Edward Bromfield
The Hon°. Andrew Oliver Esqr.
John Phillips Esqr.
Mr. Isaac Walker
Capt. Ebenr. Storer
Mr. John Barrett
Mr. Joseph Sherburne
Mr. John Tudor

were chose Overseers of the Poor for the Year ensuing.

Upon a Motion made and Seconded, It was Voted unanimously that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby are given to the Gentn. the Overseers of the Poor for the last Year, for their good Services done the Town.

Mr. David Jeffries was chose Town Treasurer, and took the Oath required by the Act of the 22d. of his present Majesty, relating to receiving or paying Bills of the other Governments, and also took an Oath for the faithful Discharge of his Duty in that Office.

Voted that the Town proceed to Choose Twelve Constables distinct from the Collectors of Taxes.

Voted that any Person that shall be chose into the Office of a Constable for the year ensuing, be Excus'd from Serving provided he pay into the Town Treasury Three Pounds lawful money.

Constables [In margin]

Messrs. William Davis	Pay
Benj. Davis	Pay
Willm. Mitchell	misnam'd
Henderson Inches	Pay
Saml. Waterhouse	Excus'd
Joseph Tyler	Pay
James Richardson	Pay
James Boies	Excus'd
John Coburn	Pay
John Cotton	Pay
Andw. Oliver junr.	Pay
John Dupee	Excus'd

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[304.] Col°. John Hill
John Phillips Esqr.
Capt. John Carnes
Capt. Joseph Jackson
Capt. Isaac Freeman
M^r. John Scollay
M^r. John Tudor
M^r. Royal Tyler
M^r. Newman Greenough
M^r. Thomas Jackson jun^r.
M^r. Nathaniel Thwing
M^r. Hopestill Foster

Were chose Firewards for the Year ensuing.

Voted that the Affair of opening Faneuil Hall Market be taken into Consideration tomorrow at Eleven o'Clock in the forenoon.

Voted that the Petition of the Inhabitants at the Southerly end of the Town, praying that a Water Engine may be provided and assigned for them, and that the Bell at M^r. Byles's Meeting house may be rung as heretofore, be taken into Consideration as soon as the Affair of opening the Market is determin'd.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourn'd till tomorrow morning at 9 o'Clock in the forenoon.

Tuesday morning the Town met according to Adjournment.

Voted that Fancis Borland & John Wheelwright Esq^rs. M^r. William Cooper, M^r. Harrison Gray & M^r. Thomas Oxnard be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to Audit the Accompts of M^r. David Jeffries, Treasurer of the Town, & also the Accompts of the Overseers of the Poor, & the said Committee are hereby directed and Impowered to Inspect every particular Account of the moneys expended for the use of the Almshouse and every other Branch of the publick Charges, & they are desired to make Report thereon as soon as they have done the same.

M^r. John Gray

was chose Surveyor of Hemp for the Year ensuing.

[305.] Messrs. Robert Ford
Capt. Isaac White
Andrew Symmes
John Grant
Benj^a. Andrews
William Nichols
Clement Collins
Isaac Vergoose . . . . . Sworn
William Paine
John Greenough
Joseph Butler
Moses Eayres

were Chosen Viewers of Boards, Shingles, &c. for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. John Hiller
Benj^a. Ballard
Edward Potter
Isaac Towle

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Robert Treat
Samuel Treat
Joseph Dyre
Benj^{a}. Sault
John Hobbs
Jon^{a}. Jenkins
were Chosen Cullers of Staves &c. for the Year ensuing.
Messrs. Augustus Hail
Neal M^{c}.intire
Nathl. Bird
William Wheeler (Set work Cooper)
were Chosen Hogreeves for the Year ensuing.
Messrs. Jacob Parker
Nathaniel Barber
William Fairfield
Peter Oliver
John Kneeland
Samuel Edwards
Benjamin Church
were Chosen Assessors for the Year ensuing
[306.] Messrs. Moses Deshon
Richard Billings
Joshua Bently
Ebenezer Simpson
Jacob Holyoke
Thomas Sherburne
Bartholomew Gedney
Ephraim Copeland
Timothy Newell
William Torrey
Samuel Adams
Thomas Snow
were Chosen Scavingers for the Year ensuing.
Messrs. Caleb Ray
William Moore
Onesiphorus Tilestone
Samuel Warden
James Tileston
Samuel Ruggles
were Chosen Fence Viewers for the Year ensuing.
Messrs. Samuel Hastings
Josiah Carter
John Allen
Nathaniel Hodgdon
William Currier
Ebenezer Wallis
were Chosen Sealers of Leather for the Year ensuing.
Messrs. David Colson jun^{r}.
Nathaniel Gardner
were Chosen Informers about Deer for the Year ensuing.
M^{r}. Joseph Curtis, was Chosen Hayward for the Year ensuing.

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The Selectmen were Chosen Surveyors of High Ways for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. David Cutler
Thomas Foster

were Chosen Assay masters for the Year ensuing.

[307.] Messrs. Jonathan Amory . . . . . Excus'd.
John Amory . . . . . Pay
John Bridge Serv'd last Year so . Excus'd.
Samuel Phillips . . . . . Pay
Arnold Welles . . . . . Pay
Edward Scott . . . . . Pay

were Chosen Constables for the Year ensuing.

M^r. John Wendell Tert^s. was Chosen a Constable for the Year ensuing . . . . . Sworn.

Messrs. Joseph Jackson
John Scollay
Thomas Greene

were Chosen Purchasers of Grain for the Year ensuing.

The said Committee are desired and Impowered to give all needful Directions to the keeper of the Granary respecting the Quantitys of Grain to be sold, and settling the Price thereof from time to time as Occasion may require.

The Petition of sundry Inhabitants for Opening Faneuil Hall Market was taken into Consideration, and after some Debate thereon —— Voted That the said Market be now Opened accordingly. Also Voted, That the Selectmen be and they hereby are directed to Lease the Stalls in Faneuil Hall Market to such Persons only as will bring in for Sale here at a reasonable Price, the Hides and Tallow of all such Cattle as they shall kill, and that they give Security to the Satisfaction of the Selectmen for their so doing.

Voted, That M^r. Moses Deshon be Clerk of Faneuil Hall Market, for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Abraham Rogers . . . . Sworn.
William Boardman . . . . Pay
Thomas Maccarty . . . . Pay
Abraham Savage . . . . Excus'd
Joseph Man . . . . . Pay
Jeremiah Belknap . refuses to Serve or Pay.
Edward Lad Sanders . . . Sworn
James M^c.millian . . . . Excus'd.

were Chosen Constables for the Year ensuing.

[308.] Messrs. William Gray
John Gore
Daniel Oliver
Jonathan Mason
Cornelius Thayer
John Morley
Charles Deming
John Leverett
Isaac Cazneau
Andrew Oliver Jeweller

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Josiah Waters
William Homes
were Chosen Clerks of the Market, for the Year ensuing.

Messrs.	Christopher Banks . . .	Excus'd
	Henry Snow	Excus'd.
	John Griffith	Excus'd
	James Bailey	Excus'd
	Thomas Mitchell	Pay
	Edward Davis	Excus'd.

were Chosen Constables for the Year ensuing.

The Selectmen's Report on the Accompt of Mr. John Fenno, keeper of the Granary for the Year past, as Entred in his Book (and on File in the Town Clerk's Office) Read and Voted, That the same be Accepted, & accordingly that Mr. Fenno be further Accountable to the Town for One hundred & Seventy four bushels of Indian Corn, and thirty bushels Rye amo. to Thirty Seven pounds eighteen Shillings & four pence three farthings, & also for the Sum of Three hundred & Sixty three pounds fifteen Shillings & nine pence half penny Cash, amounting in the whole to the sum of Four hundred & one pounds fourteen Shillings & two pence one farthing, lawful money, exclusive of the Sum of Twenty Six pounds thirteen Shillings & four pence, for his Salary and Assistance, which is charg'd in said Accompt, & hereby allowed him.

The Petition of Sundry Inhabitants at the Southerly part of the Town praying that a Water Engine may be provided and Assign'd for them, and that the Bell at the Revd. Mr. Byles's Meeting house may be Rung at such hours as shall be judg'd necessary, was Read & taken into Consideration and after some [309.] Debate —— It was Voted, That the Selectmen be and they hereby are directed to provide a good Water Engine at the Expence of the Town and keep it in such a place at the Southerly part thereof as will best Accommodate the Inhabitants living there, and that a Master for said Engine, and such a Number of other Persons be appointed, by the Selectmen to take the Care and Charge of said Engine, as they shall judge necessary.

Also Voted That the Bell at the Revd. Mr. Byles's Meeting house be for the future Rung at such hours, as the Selectmen shall direct and think necessary.

Voted, That the Assessors be and they hereby are Impowered to Sit upon the Abatement of Taxes to the first Day of May next and no longer, saving that they have Liberty to Sit the two last weeks in November next to Abate the Taxes of all such Persons, as shall appear to them to have Died, or been out of Town, and so could not have made Application to them before the said first Day of May.

Also Voted, That the Assessors be and they hereby are directed and required to begin to Sit and make the Taxes of the current Year the first Week in September next, and so continue sitting de Die in Diem, until they have Compleated the same, Provided they shall then have receiv'd the Warrants from the Province Treasurer, and from the Court of Sessions for the Province and County Tax.

The Petition of Abiah Holbrook Master of the South Writing

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School praying for Additional Assistance in Instructing the Scholars, and that an Allowance may be made him for Supplying them with Ink, was taken into Consideration, and thereupon it was Voted, that

Thomas Hubbard Esqr.
M^r. Thomas Greene
Jacob Wendell Esqr.
Joshua Winslow Esqr. and
Samuel Welles Esqr.

be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to take said Petition into Consideration, and Report to the Town what they think necessary to be done thereupon, and said Committee are [310.] Also desired to Consider in what place it will be most convenient for the Town to Erect another Writing School for the better Education and Accomodation of Children, and Report thereupon.

Upon a Motion made and Seconded.

It was Voted, That M^r. John Tudor, M^r. John Ruddock M^r. Samuel Adams, Foster Hutchinson Esqr. M^r. Harrison Gray, M^r. Oxenbridge Thacher, and M^r. William Cooper, or the Major part of them, be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to Visit the Publick Schools in the Town the Year ensuing at such times as they shall think proper, to See what Number of Children are in each School, to Enquire into their behaviour and Attendance, and the Government and Regulation they are under, and they are desired to make Report hereon at the General Town Meeting in March next.

Tything-men Nothing done thereon.

The Votes for a County Treasurer being brought in were Sealed up by Constable Wendell, to be by him kept and return'd to the Court of General Sessions of the Peace in April next.

Voted, That this Meeting be Adjourn'd to Three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Three o'Clock in the Afternoon, the Town met according to Adjournment.

Voted, That the Selectmen be and hereby they are directed to Provide and Maintain Three Bulls to go on the Common at the Expence of the Town.

Voted, That Twelve pence on the Pound be & hereby is Allowed to be paid to the Collectors of Taxes for the Year ensuing, for all such Sums as they shall Collect, Provided they pay unto the Town Treasurer, One half part of the whole Sum they are Obliged to pay him within four Months from the time they receive the Tax Books from the Assessors, and the other half part in Three Months after, and also pay to the [311.] Province and County Treasurers, one half part of the whole Sums they shall be Oblig'd to pay them respectively in Seven Months from the Time they shall receive the Tax Books from the Assessors, as aforesaid, and the other half part in Five Months after, and in case either of the said Collectors shall fail paying the Treasurers in manner as aforesaid, the Collector so failing shall not be Entitled to the aforesaid Allowance of Twelve pence on the Pound, but wholly forfeit the same. Provided also that each of Said Collectors give Bond with sufficient Sureties to

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the Satisfaction of the Selectmen for the faithful Discharge of their Duty in said Office, and Complying with this Vote.

Voted, That the Town proceed to the Choice of Six Collectors of Taxes —— the Votes being brought in it appeared that

Messrs. John Ruddock
Joseph Russell
Hopestill Foster
Thomas Downe junr.
James Scutt and
Jonathan Payson

were chose

The Article in the Warrant Vizt. What Application is necessary to be made to the General Court, that the Town may be "Abated such Taxes as have been usually paid by those of its Inhabitants that the last Summer remov'd into the Countrey Towns to avoid the Small pox and paid Taxes there", was taken into Consideration, and thereupon it was Voted that

Samuel Welles Esqr.
Abiel Walley Esqr.
Mr. Edward Bromfield
Mr. William Cooper, and
Mr. Thomas Greene,

be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to prepare the Draft of a Petition to the General Court thereupon, and Report the same to the Town at the Adjournment of this Meeting.

The Petition of David Wheeler praying that the Town would Sell or Lease to him the Pond at the South End called Wheeler's [312.] Pond, was Read, and thereupon Voted, That the Town Clerk be and he is hereby directed to look into the Deed or Grant of said Pond made by Gyles Dyer Esqr. to the Town and Report at the Adjournment of this Meeting upon what Conditions it was granted.

The Town proceeded to Consider of some Method for raising Moneys to pay the Heirs of Mr. John Dolbeare Deced, — for the Brick house he built on the Towns Lands near the Dock, agreeable to the Lease thereof formerly made him, and now expir'd, and after some Debate thereon, Voted that the Selectmen be and they hereby are impowered to Advertise the Leasing of said Lands, receive proposals concerning the same, and make Report thereof to the Town at their General Meeting in May next, that so the Town may Act thereon as they shall think proper.

Voted, That this Meeting be and hereby is Adjourn'd to Friday the 23d. instant, at Nine o'Clock in the Forenoon.

Friday the 23d. of March 1753. the Town met according to their Adjournment.

Mr. Moses Deshon inform'd the Town that he was Chose Clerk of Faneuil Hall Market, but that his Business will not allow him to Serve in that Office & desired to be Excus'd.

Voted, That he be Excus'd accordingly.

Voted, That the Consideration of raising Money for the defreying the Publick Expences be refer'd to the General Town Meeting in May next, and that the Town then Determine upon a certain hour

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when they will raise the same—Also Voted that the making Grants to any Person in the Service of the Town be refer'd to said May Meeting.

Messrs.	Alexander Leblond	Sworn
	Daniel Bass	Sworn
	Sanderson West	Sworn
	Daniel Eveleth	Excus'd
	Samuel Trott	Sworn
	Robert Williams	Sworn
	John Bridge	Sworn

chosen constables

[313.]	Samuel Haley	Sworn
	Samuel Ridgaway jun^r.	Sworn
	Joseph Candish	Excus'd
	John Edwards	Excus'd

were Chosen Constables for the Year ensuing.

M^r. John Pattin was Chosen a Constable . . . Sworn.

The Committee appointed the 13th. instant, to Visit the Publick Schools, See the number of Children in each School; Enquire into their behaviour and Attendance &c. appeared and pray'd they might be Excus'd from that Service, Whereupon It was Voted That said Committee be Excus'd from that Service accordingly.

Voted, That the Selectmen be & they hereby are desired to Visit the Publick Schools more frequently than has been hitherto Practic'd and Enquire into the behaviour of the Scholars and the Government and Regulation they are under, and give such Directions to the Masters of Said Schools concerning them, as they shall judge needful.

The Committee appointed the 13th. instant, on the Petition of M^r. Abiah Holbrook Master of the South Writing School, now Reported, That they had taken the same into Consideration, and were of Opinion that Two Hundred and Ninety Six Scholars are too many for any School even, if there were three Persons appointed to have the Instruction and Government of it, and thereupon Reported that it would not be for the Benefit of the Town to place another Usher there, but rather to determine on some other part of the Town for another School, which will undoubtedly have a tendency to lessen this —— And as it would be much for the Ease of the Master as well as benefit of the Scholars, constantly to have good Stationers Ink in Use they further Report that the said Masters have Liberty to find the same at the Charge of the Town, provided he will do it for Four Pounds p Annum.

The Committee have likewise viewed several parts of the Town represented to them as suitable to Erect another School-house upon, As also the School house that M^r. Holyoke now keeps, and finding the same will Admit of an Addition of about Twenty four [314.] Feet, which when done will be as large as the South Writing School in the Common, and will conveniently hold Two Hundred Scholars (a Number in the Committee's Opinion full enough for any two Persons to have the Care of) and as this Addition may be made for about One Hundred and Twenty Pounds. they Report that at this time it is the best thing for the Ease and

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benefit of the Town that such an Addition be made as soon as may be.

And after some Debate thereon —— A Question was put, Whether said Report be Accepted, and it pass'd in the Affirmative.

Also Voted, that the Selectmen be and they hereby are desired and Impowered to Enlarge the Writing School in Queen Street as soon as may be, in the manner mentioned in the said Report.

Also Voted, That Mr. Abiah Holbrook provide the Scholars under his Care with Ink as he requests in his Petition, provided he will do it for Four Pounds Lawful Money a Year.

The Committee appointed the 12th instant to prepare a Draft of a Petition to the General Court, "that the Town may be abated such Taxes as have been usually paid by those of its Inhabitants that the last Summer removed into the Countrey Towns to avoid the Small Pox and paid Taxes there" Reported a Draft they had prepared, and after some Debate thereon —— It was Mov'd and accordingly Voted That the Power of said Committee be Enlarg'd and that they not only Consider of the particular Affair above mentioned, but also that they take into Consideration the present distressing state and Circumstances of the Town on every Account, and prepare a Draft of a Petition to the General Court, therein representing the same in as full and particular a manner as may be, praying for Relief &c. and make Report of said Draft to the Town at their General Meeting in May next —— Also Voted That Dr. William Clark be Added to said Committee for the purposes aforesaid.

Upon a Motion made and Seconded, It was Unanimously Voted, That the Gentlemen the Representatives of the Town give the Thanks of the Town to the Great and General Court [315.] Or Assembly of this Province at their next Sessions, for their great Goodness in making a Grant of Six Hundred Pounds Lawful Money, for the Relief of such poor Inhabitants of this Town, as were the last Summer visited with the Small Pox.

The Petition of David Wheeler, praying that the Town would Sell or Lease to him the Pond at the South End called Wheeler's Pond, was Read, and after some Debate thereon ——

Voted, That the said Petition be Dismiss'd.

It being represented to the Town, that part of their Land near and about Wheeler's Pond is greatly Encroached upon, and by some Persons bordering thereon taken into their own Lands.

Voted, That the Selectmen be and they hereby are desired to Enquire into such Encroachments, and remove the same, and Settle and Stake out the Bounds of the Towns Lands there that so it may for the future be known how far the same extend.

A Motion was made by Dr. William Clark & Seconded by several of the Inhabitants, that the Town would Give or Lend to the Linnen Manufactory Company the Sum of Twelve Hundred and Ninety One Pounds.

Old tenor Bills of the Neighbouring Governments, which for a considerable time past, has lain useless in the Treasury," and after some Debate thereon —— A Question was put, Whether the

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Town will now proceed to Act on said Motion? And it pass'd in the Affirmative. And then another Question was put, Whether the Town are willing Mr. Treasurer Jeffries should Lend the aforesaid Moneys to said Company to be improv'd by them for the Benefit thereof, until the Town should call for the same? And it pass'd in the Affirmative.

Mr. Abijah Adams was Chose Clerk of Faneuil Hall Market for the Year ensuing.

The Town took into Consideration the Report of a Committee (appointed the 12th. of March last) on the Petition of Isaac Dupee Solomon Kneeland and others made at the Town Meeting in [316.] May last, and there Recorded at large, and which was refer'd over to this time, and after some Debate thereon ——

Voted, That said Report be and hereby is Accepted. Also Voted, That Mr. William Fairfield, Mr. Thomas Greene and Mr. Joseph Calef be and they hereby are appointed a Committee and fully Authorized and Impowered for and in behalf of the Town to join with the Petitioners and any other Persons that Claim any Right or Interest in the Lands mentioned in said Petition, in referring their respective Claims to such Persons as shall be by them mutually Chose, and said Committee are also Impowered to Sign & Execute such Bonds as may be judg'd necessary to Oblige the Town to Abide by the Award or Determination of said Referees or a Major part of them provided the other Parties also give sufficient Security for Abiding by such Determination, and whatsoever said Committee shall do or cause to be done in the Premisses, the Town hereby Promise to Ratify & Confirm.

The Committee appointed the 12th. of March last, to Audit the Accompts of Mr. Treasurer Jeffries now Reported that they had Attended that Service and find the same right Cast and well vouch'd; and the said Treasurer charges himself with sundry Fines receiv'd from Justices of the Peace, with the Rents and Incomes of the Town and with the Taxes committed to the Collectors, Amounting in all to £8465,, 18,, 7,, And the said Treasurer discharges himself by sundry Abatements made the Collectors, by what he has already paid of the Selectmens and Overseers Drafts, and by what remains unpaid of said Drafts &c. Amounting in all to £4374,, 15,, 10¾ —— By which it appears that when all the Taxes Rents &c. are paid in, the Ballance will be Forty hundred and Ninety One Pounds Two Shillings and Eight pence farthing, which the said Treasurer is further to Account for, as appears by the Tryal Ballance of said Accompt given in by said Committee and on File, which Report and Accompt being Read —— Voted That the said Report be and hereby is Accepted.

Voted, That all the Business and Affairs of this Meeting [317.] That still remain unfinish'd, be refer'd over to the General Meeting of the Town in May next, to be then Considered of and Acted upon.

Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be and hereby is given to the Honble. James Allen Esqr. the Moderator, for Managing the Affairs of this Meeting.

Then the Meeting was Dismiss'd.

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At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, duly qualify'd and lawfully warn'd in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall, on Tuesday the 15th. day of May A.D. 1753.

Prayer was made by the Revd. Mr. Samuel Checkley.

The Precept and Warrant for calling the Meeting. Read.

Sundry Laws —— Read.

John Steel Esqr. One of the Selectmen propos'd in their name to the Inhabitants Assembled to proceed to the Choice of a Person or Persons to represent them in a Great and General Court or Assembly to be held at Boston upon Wednesday the Thirtieth Day of May instant, and in Order thereto, to Consider and Ascertain the Number of Gentlemen to be Elected, accordingly it was Voted to proceed to the Choice of Four Representatives and it was then declar'd that the Poll be clos'd at Twelve o'Clock.

The Votes being Collected, the number of Voters were found to be 445. and upon sorting 'em it appeared that the following Gentlemen were Chose. —— Vizt.

	Votes
Thomas Hubbard Esqr.	411.
James Allen Esqr.	282.
Samuel Welles Esqr.	266.
Mr. James Bowdoin.	249.

The Election of Representatives being over, and the same declar'd by the Selectmen.

[318.] The Inhabitants proceeded to bring in their Votes for a Moderator, and upon Sorting 'em, it appeared that the Honble. Thomas Hubbard Esqr. was Chose by a great Majority.

The Town then proceeded to bring in their Votes for One Selectman in the room of Thomas Hancock Esqr. who declines Serving, and upon sorting 'em, it appeared that Mr. Samuel Hewes was chose by a great Majority.

The Petition of Henry Atkins, Ezekiel Goldthwait, James Pitts, John Rowe, Thomas Goldthwait, Nathaniel Holmes John Baker and Thomas Mitchell, setting forth, that they have Purchased a Tract of Land in the Township of Chelsea at a place called Pullin point for Carrying on the Fishery there, praying the Town will Lease to them Deer Island (which belongs to the Town) for such a Time and on such Terms as the Town shall judge proper, for the better Enabling the Petitioners to carry on said Fishery, said Lease to Commence upon the Expiration of the Lease made by the Town to Mr. Henry Lloyd, was now Read and Considered of —— and after some Debate thereon —— It was Voted That the Prayer of the Petition be granted, and that the Selectmen be and they hereby are fully Authorized and Impowered to give and Execute a Lease of said Island, and the Appurtenances thereof unto the said Petitioners and their Heirs &c. they to hold the same for the term of Seven Years at the Rent of Twenty Shillings p Annum, provided there is Yearly and every Year during that time Twenty Vessels belonging to the Inhabitants of Boston Employed in the Fishery at said Pullin point, and that upon Failure thereof said Lease shall be then void, and said Island and Appurtenances

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revert to the Town, as tho' said Lease had never been made, the Petitioners keeping said Lands in good heart, and keep the Buildings & Fences in good repair during the Lease, and at the Expiration thereof deliver it up in like good repair, the Petitioners also paying all such Taxes as shall be Levyed on said Premisses, the above said Vessells to be of the Burthen of Forty Tuns, One with the other.

[**319.**] Voted, That the Consideration of raising Moneys be refer'd to Six o'Clock this Afternoon.

The Selectmen appointed a Committee the 23d. of March last, to View the Pond called Wheeler's Pond at the South part of the Town, to Enquire into the Encroachments there made, and afterwards Settle and Stake out the Bounds of the Towns Lands there, now Report, that they had done the Business Assign'd 'em, and that it was their Opinion that said Pond is of no benefit to the Town, but a considerable Nusance, and like to Continue so, and that it will be best for the Town to dispose of it for the most it will fetch, there now being several Persons who are ready to Purchase it, —— After some Debate thereon —— Voted, That said Report be Accepted, Also

Voted that the present Selectmen or a Major part of them, be and they hereby are fully Authorized and Impowered to Sell said Pond and the Town's Lands around it, for the most they can, and to give and Execute for and in behalf of the Town, good and legal Deeds therefor to the Purchaser, said Lands to be first Advertis'd, and then Sold to the highest bidder, and that the Produce of such Sale be Applyed to the Payment of the Heirs of Mr. John Dolbeare Deceased for the Buildings he Erected on the Towns Lands at the head of the Dock.

The Petition of the Committee of Kings Chappel, praying that Liberty may be granted them to Erect three Pillars of Stone on the Towns Land at the Easterly End of said Chappel —— was Read, and thereupon, It was Voted that Thomas Hubbard Esqr. Henry Atkins Esqr. Mr. James Pitts, Mr. Stephen Greenleaf and Mr. Jacob Parker be a Committee to View the place where it is propos'd said Pillars shall be Erected, and whether said Pillars will incommode or Obstruct a convenient Entrance into any of the Tombs near there, and make Report at the Adjournment of this Meeting.

The Petition of Mr. Samuel Holyoke praying he may be continued Master of the Writing School in Queen Street, was Read, and thereupon it was Moved that the Petitions of Mr. John Procter junr. and Mr. Samuel Holbrook praying that they [**320.**] May be appointed Master of said School, in Case One should be there wanted, may be Read, which were Read accordingly and after a considerable Debate thereon, It was Voted that the Prayer of Mr. Holyoke's Petition be so far granted as that Mr. Holyoke be continued Master of said School on such Terms and Conditions as shall be Agreed upon by him and the Selectmen, to whom it is refer'd.

The Town Enter'd upon the Consideration of raising Money for the Relief of the Poor, and defraying other necessary Charges,

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and after some Debate thereon It was Moved and Voted that the same be refer'd to the Adjournment of this Meeting, and that in the mean time the Treasurer be directed to prepare the most exact Account he can of the particular Expences of the Town, and how they arise and lay the same before the Town at said Adjournment.

The Committee appointed the 23d. of March last to prepare a Draft of a Petition to the General Court, now Reported a Draft of the same, which is as follows, Viz.

To the Honourable Spencer Phipps Esqr. Lieutenant Governour and Commander in Chief of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay, The Honble. the Council and House of Representatives in General Court Assembled, May 30th. 1753.

The Petition of the Town of Boston,

Humbly Sheweth.

That they readily Acknowledge it, a great favour of divine Providence that they live under a Government, to which they may freely apply, and from which they may Obtain relief under any pressing difficulties, of which they have had a recent instance, by the gracious Grant out of the Province Treasury in the late distressing time of the Small Pox, which bounty they mention with a very humble and grateful sense.

[**321.**] This Encourageth the Town in their present Case, to lay open before your Honours their Circumstances and distresses; It is very obvious that the Extent of Land in Boston, is the least of any Town in the whole Province and of consequence, that their great proportion of Taxes, may be founded on some adventitious circumstances which must be the Commerce or Manufactures carry'd on there, in which it is very certain and plain, that the Town of Boston, heretofore had very greatly the Advantage, it being almost the sole Seat of Foreign Trade, receiving and exporting almost all the Commoditys produced by this and the neighbouring Governments, and supplying them with such Foreign Goods as this Town imported and as the others stood in need of; There was also, from the earliest days of the Town a great and growing benefit by Ship-building, not only for their own Use and Navigation which was formerly all that went abroad from New England, but also for Sale in Our Mother Countrey, in the whole not less than Five or Six Thousand Tons of Shipping were Built Annually in the Town, and the larger sorts of Ships till lately were almost wholly built there; This necessarily Employed and brought into Town a great number of Shipwrights, Blacksmiths Shipjoyners Ropemakers, Blockmakers, Sailmakers, Riggers, and other Labourers as well as Sailors, all which mainly resided in Boston, and added to their numbers and Wealth, and help't to pay the Towns proportion of Taxes; whereas, now, three quarters of the Shipping are built out of this Town and more especially at Newbury; and about Forty Years since, begun a considerable branch of Business by Distilling Molasses or Treacle as it is call'd at home, and refining Sugar; These Manufactures for near Twenty Years were wholly confined to the Town of Boston, and there was scarcely a Still house or Sugar house any where else, in this or any of the Neighbouring Governments; This bro't on a large Trade

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not only in importing the Molasses and Raw Sugar, from which the Spirits and Loaf Sugar were made, but also in exporting the Rum and other Spirits Distilled and the Sugar refined to New York, Pensilvania, Maryland, Virginia, North and South Carolina, for Wheat, Bread, Flour, Indian Corn, Pork, Beef, Pitch, Tar, Turpentine, Tallow, Furs, Skins and other things too many to be particularly named, as well as to Newfoundland and Nova [322.] Scotia for Fish, Train Oil and Bills of Exchange; whereas for divers years lately, the Distilling is not only spread and carried on in various parts of this Province, as Plimouth, Salem, Charlestown, Newbury, Nantucket, Watertown and Medford, but also exceeding largely in Newport & Providence in Rhode Island Government, and there are also many Still houses and Sugar houses in New York and Philadelphia and also considerable of the Distilling Business carried on at New London, Norwich, Newhaven, and Middletown in Connecticut, insomuch, that now this Town has but a small Share of Supplying, even the home consumption, for beside what the Distillers in the other Towns of the Province, Sell, very large quantities are bro't into this Province, by Land and Sea from Newport and Providence in Rhode Island Colony; The Trade of the Town of Boston is also exceedingly lessened in English Goods, for whereas, for a great number of Years they Supply'd this Province, Connecticut, New Hampshire and Rhode Island wholly, they now send but little to Connecticut, and hardly any thing at all to Rhode Island, and as to this Province, divers Persons now Inhabitants of Boston are Supply'd with English Goods very largely, from the very men in other Towns, who but a few years since had their whole Supply of English and almost all other Goods out of this Town, and of these very men.

There has been also lately introduced another practice, that, of the common Victuallers or Butchers living in other Towns and there generally killing the Meat for this Town, both great and small, whereas formerly the greatest part of the small Meat was killed by Town Dwellers and the large Beasts almost without a single exception, The Hides & Skins were then almost wholly Tanned, Curryed & Manufactured in Town, the Shoemakers in the Country were mainly Supply'd with Leather from hence, and great numbers of Shoemakers in Boston, had large Employ in making Shoes for People living in the other Towns of the Province; But the very reverse is the Case now, hardly a single Bullock is killed by an Inhabitant of Boston, nor is One quarter if an Eighth part of the Hides belonging to the [323.] Meat consumed by the People in Boston, Tanned & Manufactured here, Our Shoemakers what few We have, are Obliged to go into the Countrey for their Leather, and a great number of Shoemakers who live in the Country, have large Employ from Boston.

These things the Removal of Ship-building, sinking of the Distillery & Sugar Works here, the killing the Meat and Manufacturing the Hides and Skins out of Town, have thinned Our Numbers above a Thousand Rateable Men, carried from us many of Our most Industrious, frugal and provident Inhabitants, who have left us a number of thoughtless, Idle and Sottish Persons, who have

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very soon of course, come to be the charge and burthen of the Town, Insomuch, that in a few Years, the Poor's Tax has risen from about a Thousand or Fifteen hundred Pounds Old tenor, to above Ten Thousand Pounds a year, and the sum given, in quarterly Meetings, Monthly Contributions, half Yearly Collections on the Anniversary Fasts and Thanksgivings and private Charitys are tho't to Amount to as much, and many think more; And the Expence of this Town of Boston for the Poor is tho't by the most Industrious, to be more than the whole Province beside, on that Occasion and some say than all the Governments of New England put together, exclusive of Boston: so that the most Observing and best Acquainted are very positive, that the Poor's Tax in Boston, is double (if not more) to what it is, in any Town of it's bigness, upon the face of the whole Earth.

This Excessive Charge has begun and is likely very much to increase, another great and ruinous Mischief, the driving Our Wealthy and most able Inhabitants out of this Town, to Dwell and be Rated in the Countrey. It is a known and settled point that about a quarter of a fifth part of what they pay in this Town of Boston, is the extent of what they will ordinarily be Rated, in almost any Town, they can Move into, in the Countrey; It must be a strong temptation, to be able to Sleep quietly a few Miles out of Boston, and Escape paying Five Hundred or a Thousand Pounds a Year, This is the Case, numbers are gone already, more are going, others are preparing to go, and unless there be some remedy the Town must be depopulated and the Poor perish by themselves.

[324.] These are Our Circumstances yet we cannot but hope, that by the interposition of Your Honour's Equity and Goodness this Once flourishing but now sinking Town, may be saved from ther dismal prospects and their hopes (as they humbly conceive) are founded on Justice, their proportion in the Province Assessments, is much the same as in their most prosperous state, when the Province was little more than half so Numerous in the other parts of it, and scarce a quarter so Able in point of Wealth, It is impossible the same proportions should be equitable, when One part is undeniably Sunk very much below what they were, and the other part more than doubled in their Ability, this must be Acknowledged to be the Case in comparing the present and past state of the Countrey; Boston has most certainly Sunk, and is by a Thousand Rateable Inhabitants, less, the other parts of the Province are most certainly risen, become more flourishing, their Lands better Subdued and made more profitable their numbers of Rateable Inhabitants increased by many Thousands, their Trade, especially that which is Foreign, more that ten times greater than it was a very few Years ago; We need only name the Countys of Essex, Middlesex and Worcester to shew the Increase of Inhabitants and Husbandry, and the Towns of Plimouth, Salem, Marblehead, Newbury, Glocester, Nantucket York and Falmouth in Casco Bay, to evidence the great and flourishing Foreign Trade carried on, which formerly wholly cordered in Boston, but is, now gone from it, to these several growing & flourishing Towns, if a Fifth or a Sixth part of the Tax, was

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Boston's Proportion formerly a Tenth or a Twelfth part, is much more than their proportion now.

Wherefore, your humble Petitioners pray your Honours to Settle the proportion of the Town of Boston in the Publick Assessments, according to the present state of the Town and Countrey, or in some other Way, according to your known Wisdom and Justice give them relief —— And your Petitioners (as in Duty bound) shall ever pray &c.

After the same was Read, It was Unanimously Voted That it be Accepted, also Voted That the Town Clerk [**325.**] Prepare a fair Copy thereof, and Sign the same in the name of the Town, and that the Gentlemen the Representatives be and hereby are desired to present it to the General Court at their next Session, and Use their utmost Endeavours that the Prayer thereof be granted.

Voted, That this Meeting be Adjourn'd to Monday the 28th. instant at three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Monday the 28th. of May 1753, three o'Clock in the Afternoon, the Town met according to Adjournment.

Upon a Motion made and Seconded, It was unanimously Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be and hereby is given to Thomas Hancock Esqr. for the many faithful and generous Services by him done for the Town during the time he Acted as One of their Selectmen.

Voted, that the Selectmen be and they are hereby directed to give to Thomas Hancock Esqr. a Draft on the Treasury for the Sum of Eight Pounds Seven Shillings & Six pence Sterling Money, being so much Expended by Christopher Kilby Esqr. in London, to prevent the Allowance of an Act of this Province relating to the Excise laid on the Sale of Tea, Snuff, Arrack, Coffee and China Ware.

Upon a Motion made by Ezekiel Goldthwait Esqr. and Seconded by many of the Inhabitants, It was Unanimously Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be and hereby is given unto Christopher Kilby of London Esqr. for his great pains taken and close Attendance upon the Lords Commissioners of Trade and Plantations, and also a Committee of the Lords of His Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council, in order to get repealed An Act lately pass'd by this Government, laying an Excise upon Tea, Coffee, Snuff Arrack and China Ware, Sold here, which the Town apprehended to be a great Prejudice to it, and which the said Christopher Kilby Esqr. by his Assiduity and Care got repealed accordingly.

[**326.**] Voted, That the Selectmen be and they hereby are desired to Write a Letter to Christopher Kilby Esqr. and the Executors of Eliakim Palmer Esqr. Deceas'd, desiring them to send an Account to the Town, how much they have Expended of the Three Hundred Pounds Sterling, received by said Kilby and Palmer on a Bill of Exchange drawn for that sum by Andrew Oliver Esqr. in Order to enable them as the Agents of the Town to Defend a Suit brought by John Ludgate, and others, against the Town, and lately depending before His Majesty in Council, and that they would Remit the Balance now in their hands, to the Town, as soon as may be.

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The Town took into Consideration the Article in the Warrant Viz^t. "To determine upon some Method for raising Moneys to pay to the Heirs of M^r. John Dolbeare Deceas'd for the Buildings he Erected on the Towns Lands at the head of the Dock" —— and after some Debate thereon ——

Voted That M^r. David Jeffries Treasurer of the Town be and he hereby is desired and fully Impowered to borrow upon Interest of any Person or Persons such a Sum of Money as he shall find necessary to pay off said Heirs, over and above the Sum that the Sale of Wheeler's Pond will Amount to, and that said Treasurer give his Bond for the Payment of the same, which Bond or Bonds the Town hereby Promise and Engage to Discharge when the same shall become due.

The Committee appointed by the Town the 15th. instant, on the Petition of a Committee of Kings Chappel praying that Liberty may be granted them to Erect three Pillars of Stone on the Towns Lands at the Easterly End of said Chappel now Reported that they had Attended that Service, and find that the three Pillars Petitioned for, may be so placed as not to Incommode any Person, and that the Proprietors of the Tombs, and the Relatives of those buryed thereabouts are consenting to the same, also Report as their Opinion that the Prayer of said Petition be granted, and that the Petitioners have Liberty to Erect said three Pillars, provided they set them in the places propos'd by the Committee the Southermost of [**327.**] Which to be at least, Six feet from the first step leading down into M^r. Fairfield's Tomb, and the whole three not exceeding Ten feet from the Body of the Church, and that when they proceed to build them, that they notify the Proprietors of the Tombs, and the Persons who have their Relations buryed thereabouts to be present, which the Committee apprehend will be a proper Expedient to maintain Peace and give Satisfaction, provided also that if in breaking up the Ground, they find the Bones of any Deceased Persons, they put them into a distinct Box, and bury them in some other place, provided also that the Land included between the Church and the three proposed Pillars, shall not be Inclosed —— which Report being Read, after some Debate thereon, Voted, That said Report be and hereby is Accepted, and that the Petitioners have Liberty to Erect said three Pillars, in the manner and on such Terms as are mentioned in said Report.

Voted, a Grant of Four Thousand Pounds Lawful Money, be rais'd by a Tax upon Polls and Estates within the Town of Boston for Relief of the Poor and defreying other necessary Charges arising within said Town the Year ensuing.

Voted, That the Sum of One Hundred and Twenty Pounds Lawful Money, be Allowed and paid unto M^r. Peleg Wiswell for his Salary, as Master of the North Grammar School for the Ensuing Year, the same to be paid him quarterly as it shall become due, and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted, That the Sum of One Hundred and Twenty Pounds Lawful Money be Allowed and paid unto M^r. John Lovell for his Salary, as Master of the South Grammar School for the ensuing

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Year, to be paid quarterly as it shall become due, and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted, That the Sum of One Hundred Pounds Lawful Money be Allowed and paid to Mr. Abiah Holbrook, Master of [328.] The Writing School in the Common for the ensuing Year to be paid quarterly, as it shall become due and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted, That the Sum of One Hundred Pounds Lawful Money be Allowed and paid to Mr. Zacheriah Hicks, Master of the North Writing School, for the ensuing Year, to be paid quarterly as it shall become due, and Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted, That the Sum of Fifty Pounds Lawful Money be Allowed and paid to Mr. Nathaniel Gardner, Usher of the South Grammar School for the ensuing Year, to be paid him quarterly as it shall become due, to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted, That the Sum of Fifty Pounds Lawful Money, be Allowed and paid to such Person as shall be appointed by the Selectmen Usher of the Writing School in the Common to be paid him quarterly, as it shall become due.

Voted, That the Sum of Fifty Pounds Lawful Money, be Allowed and paid to such Person as shall be appointed by the Selectmen Usher of the North Writing School, to be paid quarterly as it shall become due.

Voted, That the Sum of One Hundred Pounds Lawful Money be Allowed and paid to Mr. David Jeffries for his Services as Treasurer of the Town for the Year past, and for all his Expences in his Office.

Voted, That the Selectmen be and they hereby are desired to Visit the Publick Schools as Usual, and Invite such Gentlemen to Attend them, as they may think proper.

Voted, That the Thanks of the Town be and hereby is given to the Honble. Thomas Hubbard Esqr. the Moderator of this Meeting, for transacting the Business thereof, and Thanks were given him accordingly.

Then the Meeting was Dismiss'd.

[329.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and Warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall, on Friday the Sixteenth Day of November, A.D. 1753.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting, was Read.

The Honble. Thomas Hubbard Esqr. was chosen Moderator.

The Town proceeded to Consider of the Business mentioned in the Warrant for calling this Meeting, Vizt. "To Choose two Collectors of Taxes for the present Year, in the room of Messrs. Joseph Russell and Hopestill Foster who were chose in March last but refuse to Serve," and the Town being inform'd that the four other Collectors who were then Chose were willing to Collect the whole Tax. Voted, That the Town will not Choose any more, but that the said four Collectors, Vizt. John Ruddock, James Scutt, Thomas Downe junr. and Jonathan Payson be and hereby

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are Impowered to Collect the whole Tax for the Year. 1753, the Vote pass'd in March last, that there should be Six Collectors notwithstanding, the said four Collectors to give Bond and to Collect and pay in their Taxes in the same manner as is particularly mentioned in the Vote pass'd in March last.

Then the Meeting was Dismiss'd.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and lawfully warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled in Faneuil Hall on Monday the Eleventh Day of March, A.D. 1754.

Prayer was made by the Rev^{d}. D^{r}. Charles Chauncey.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting, Read.

Sundry Laws —— Read.

[**330.**] The Town proceeded to the Choice of a Moderator by a written Vote, and the Votes being brought in and Sorted, it appeared that the Honble. Thomas Hubbard Esqr. was chose and he accordingly took the Oath required by the Act of the 22^{d}. year of His present Majesty, relating to paying & receiving Bills of the other Governments.

Ezekiel Goldthwait was chose Town Clerk for the Year ensuing, and having taken the Oath required by the Act of the 22nd. year of His present Majesty, relating to paying and receiving Bills of Credit of the other Governments, took the Oath of Office, which were Administred to him by John Steele Esqr.

The Petitions were Read.

Voted That the Town proceed to the Choice of Seven Selectmen, and the Votes being brought in and Sorted, it appeared that

M^{r}. Samuel Grant
M^{r}. Thomas Hill
Joshua Henshaw Esqr.
Capt. Joseph Jackson
M^{r}. Thomas Cushing
Capt. Samuel Hewes
M^{r}. John Scollay

were chose.

Upon a Motion made and Seconded, It was Voted that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby is given unto John Steele Esqr. for the good Services he has done the Town for many Years past, as a Selectman.

Voted, That the Town proceed to the choice of Twelve Constables distinct from the Collectors of Taxes.

Voted, That any Person that shall be chose into the Office of a Constable for the year ensuing, be Excus'd from Serving provided he pay into the Town Treasury, Three Pounds Lawful Money.

M^{r}. David Jeffries was chose Treasurer of this Town for the ensuing year, and took the Oath required by the Act of the 22^{d}. of His present Majesty, relating to his paying or [**331.**] Receiving Bills of Credit of the other Governments, and then took an Oath for the faithful Discharge of his Duty in that Office.

The Petition of sundry Inhabitants praying the Town would

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reconsider the Vote pass'd in March last, relating to the Overseers annually exhibiting a List of the Names of all such Persons as have received any part of the Towns Money, or any Support from them, was taken into Consideration, and after some Debate thereon, It was Voted that the said Vote in March last be reconsidered accordingly.

Messrs.	William Clark Apothecary	Excus'd
	Charles Ward Apthorp	Pay
	Thomas Leverett	Excus'd
	Samuel Osborne	Pay
	Thomas Parker	Excus'd
	William Stow	Pay
	Edward Wigglesworth	Pay
	Samuel Waterhouse	Pay
	Thomas Carnes	Excus'd
	Daniel Boyer	Excus'd
	Samuel Hughes Queen Street	Pay
	Thomas Greene jun^{r}.	Pay

were chosen Constables for the year ensuing.

Voted that this Meeting be Adjourned to 3 o'Clock P.M.

Monday, the 11th. of March 3 o'Clock P.M. the Town met according to Adjournment.

Messrs.	William Rand.	paid in 1750.
	Isaac Decoster	Sworn
	John Pattin	Sworn
	Jonathan Rogers	Excus'd
	Thomas Bailey	Excus'd
	Thomas Symmes	Pay
	William Scott	Pay
	William Homer	Excus'd
	Samuel Burt	Excus'd
	Joseph Bass	Sworn
	James Boyes	Excus'd
	William Edes	Excus'd

were chose Constables for the year ensuing.

[332.] The Honble. Jacob Wendell Esqr.
Col^{o}. John Hill
The Honble. Thomas Hubbard Esqr.
Daniel Henchman Esqr.
M^{r}. Edward Bromfield
The Honble. Andrew Oliver Esqr.
John Phillips Esqr.
M^{r}. Isaac Walker
Capt. Ebenezer Storer
M^{r}. John Barrett
M^{r}. Joseph Sherburne
M^{r}. John Tudor

were chose Overseers of the Poor for the year ensuing.

Messrs.	Charles Henley	Excus'd
	Alexander Leblond	Sworn
	John Bridge	Sworn
	John Edwards	Excus'd

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Oliver Wiswall . . . . . Pay
Thomas Raymond . . . . . Excus'd

were chosen Constables for the year ensuing.

The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for a County Treasurer, and they being Collected were Sealed up by Constable Pattin, to be by him kept and return'd to the Court of General Sessions of the Peace in April next.

The Town having in the forenoon Voted to Reconsider the Vote pass'd in March last, relating to the Overseers annually exhibiting a List of the Names of all such Persons as have receiv'd any part of the Towns Money, or any Support from them, won took the same into Consideration, and thereupon Voted that the said Vote in March last be and hereby is declared null and void and that the Overseers proceed as was usual before said Vote pass'd.

The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for Seven Assessors, and they being Sorted it appeared that

Messrs. Jacob Parker
William Fairfield
John Kneeland
John Winslow
[333.] Peter Oliver
Samuel Edwards, and
Benjamin Church- were chose.

Voted that the Meeting be Adjourn'd to 9 o'Clock tomorrow morning.

Tuesday, nine o'Clock in the forenoon, the Town met according to Adjournment.

M^r. John Gray

was chose Surveyor of Hemp for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Robert Ford . . . . . Sworn
Isaac White
Henry Berry
Clement Collins . . . . . Sworn
Andrew Symmes . . . . Sworn
Isaac Vergoose . . . . . Sworn
John Grant
William Paine . . . . . Sworn
William Nichols
Benjamin Russell
Moses Eayres . . . . . Sworn
Benjamin Bicknell . . . . Sworn

were chosen Surveyors of Boards, Shingles &c. for the year ensuing

Messrs. Isaac Fowle
David Spear
Edward Potter
Robert Treat
Samuel Treat
Peter Cotta
Benjamin Ballard . . . . Sworn
John Helyer . . . . . Sworn

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Joseph Dyer
Benjamin Sault
were chosen Cullers of Staves, Hoops &c for the year ensuing.

The Selectmens Report on the Accompt of Mr. John Fenno keeper of the Granary for the year past, as Enter'd in [334.] His Book (and on File in the Town Clerks Office) Read and Voted that the same be Accepted, and accordingly that Mr. Fenno be further Accountable to the Town for Eleven hundred and Fifty bushels of Corn remaining unsold amounting to One hundred and Sixty one Pounds, and also for the sum of One hundred & ninety Pounds eight Shillings & one penny farthing, Cash amounting in the whole to the sum of Three hundred & fifty one Pounds eight Shillings & one penny, farthing lawful money, exclusive of the sum of Twenty six Pounds thirteen shillings & four pence, for his Salary, & Assistance, as charg'd in said Accompt, which is hereby allow'd him.

Messrs. Robert Clark . . . . . Sworn
John Glen . . . . . Sworn
William Andrews . . . Excus'd
Thomas Price . . . . . Sworn
John Askins . . . . . Excus'd
were chosen Constables for the year ensuing.

John Hill Esqr.
John Phillips Esqr.
Mr. John Scollay
Capt. Joseph Jackson
Capt. Hopestill Foster
Mr. Thomas Jackson Distiller
Mr. Newman Greenough
Mr. Royall Tyler
Capt. Thomas James Gruchy
Mr. Joseph Jackson Truckman
Capt. Solomon Davis
Major Nathaniel Thwing
were chose Firewards for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Nathaniel Bird
William Stukely . . . . Sworn
Joseph Candish . . . . . Sworn
Samuel Smith Cordwainer . Sworn
were chosen Hogreves for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Nathaniel Gardner . . . . Sworn
David Colson junr. . . . . Sworn
were chosen Informers about Deer for the year ensuing.

[335.] Messrs. Daniel Evelcth
Samuel Torrey
Powers Mariot
Joshua Blanchard
Jacob Holyoke
David Wheeler
James Sherman
Samuel Bass
Joshua Bentley

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Robert Pierpont
Robert Williams, Baker
John Welch
were Chosen Scavingers for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Caleb Ray
William Moore . . . . . Sworn
Onesiphorus Tilestone
Samuel Warden . . . . . Sworn
Story Dawes . . . . . Sworn
Samuel Ruggles . . . . . Sworn
were Chosen Fence Viewers for the year ensuing.

Messrs. Samuel Hastings . . . . Sworn
Thomas Hase . . . . . Sworn
Thomas Hartley
William Currier . . . . . Sworn
John Allen
Nathaniel Hodgdon . . . Sworn
were chosen Sealers of Leather for the year ensuing.

M^r. Joseph Curtis was chosen Hayward for the year ensuing. Sworn

The Selectmen were chosen Surveyors of Highways for the year ensuing.

Messrs. David Cutler
Thomas Foster
were chose Assay-masters for the year ensuing.

Capt. Joseph Jackson
M^r. John Scollay } Com^tee. for Purchasing Grain.
M^r. Thomas Greene

[336.] were chose Purchasers of Grain for the year ensuing —— The said Committee are desired and Impowered to give all needful directions to the keeper of the Granary respecting the Quantitys of Grain to be Sold, and setting the Price thereof from time to time as Occasion may require.

Messrs. Isaac Cazneau . . . . . Sworn
Daniel Oliver . . . . . Sworn
Cornelius Thayer . . . . . Sworn
Charles Deming
Jonathan Mason . . . . . Sworn
William Homes
Josiah Waters . . . . . Sworn
Andrew Oliver Jeweller . . . . . Sworn
William Gray . . . . . Sworn
John Deming . . . . . Sworn
Daniel Boyer . . . . . Sworn
John Winslow, Hatter . . . . . Sworn
were chosen Clerks of the Market for the year ensuing.

Tything-men —— Nothing done thereon.

Voted, that Capt. Joseph Jackson, M^r. Thomas Greene and M^r. John Scollay be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to Enquire into all Breaches of the Act of this Province relating to Millers in this Town, and Prosecute all such as shall be guilty of the same, by not Conforming to the Particular directions of said Act.

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Voted, that the Assessors be and they hereby are Impowered to Sit upon the Abatement of Taxes to the first day of April next, and no longer, saving that they have Liberty to Sit the two last Weeks in November next to Abate the Taxes of all such Persons as shall appear to them to have Died, or been out of Town, and could not have made Application to them before said first day of April—— Also Voted that the Assessors have Liberty to sit in said two Weeks in November to Abate the Taxes of all such Persons which shall then appear to them have become Bankrupts between the first day of April and said time of Sitting, and which the Collectors have Endeavour'd to get in, but could not.

[337.] Voted, that Twelve on the Pound be and hereby is allowed to be paid to such Persons as shall be chose Collectors of Taxes for the year ensuing, for all such Sums as they shall Collect, Provided they pay unto the Town Treasurer, One half part of the whole Sum they are Obliged to pay him within four Months from the time they receive the Tax Books from the Assessors, and the other half part in three Months after, and also pay to the Province and County Treasurers, One half part of the whole Sums they shall be Obliged to pay them respectively in Seven Months from the time they shall receive the Tax books from the Assesors as aforesaid, and the other half part in Five Months after, and in Case either of the said Collectors shall fail paying the Treasurers in manner as aforesaid, the Collector so failing shall not be Entitled to the aforesaid Allowance of Twelve pence on the Pound, but wholly forfeit the same, Provided also that each of said Collectors give Bond with sufficient Sureties to the Satisfaction of the Selectmen for their faithful Discharge of their Duty in said Office and Complying with this Vote.

Messrs. John Ruddock
Thomas Downe jun^r.
James Scutt
Jonathan Payson

were chosen Collectors of Taxes for the Year ensuing.

Messrs.	Thomas Chapman	Sworn
	Richard Richardson	Excus'd
	William Jackson	Excus'd
	James Bailey	Excus'd
Messrs.	Augustus Hail	Sworn

were chosen Constables for the Year ensuing.

Samuel Procter	Sworn
Roger Stayner	Sworn

were chosen Constables for the year ensuing.

Voted, That M^r. Thomas Greene, Thomas Hancock Esqr. M^r. William Coffin, M^r. Isaac Walker and M^r. William Cooper be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to Enquire what Fines have been paid into the Town Treasury for several years [338.] Past when they were are paid, by whom, and the respective Sums so paid, the said Committee are also desired to Consider what Method they apprehend the Inhabitants had best take to recover such Fines as they judge may be now due to the Town, and make Report hereon at the General Town Meeting in May next.

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The Petition of sundry Inhabitants, Abutters on Beacon Street, and many others, setting forth the necessity of Paving said Street, and that in case the Town will Allow Fifty Pounds towards doing the same, the Abutters will pay the remainder —— Read & Voted that the Sum of Fifty Pounds lawful money be paid out of the Treasury towards paving said Street, to be paid when the same is done, the Abutters undertaking to be the remaining part of the Charge for doing the same.

The Petition of sundry Inhabitants praying that part of Anne Street may be Widened, it being now so narrow that it is dangerous to pass and repass the same, and in order to do it, there will be a necessity to take down part of a House belonging to the Heirs of Mr. Jeremiah Allen Decēd, and part of a House belonging to One Mr. Maddocks —— Read, and

Voted, that the Selectmen prefer a Petition to the General Court praying the Town may be Enabled to Widen said Street, by taking down so much of said Houses, as may be necessary therefor, allowing such Consideration for the same, as the General Court shall judge reasonable.

The Petition of Thomas Hubbard Esqr. Setting forth that in the year 1737, when the Town had Concluded on Building a Workhouse, and in order to have the same Erected in some Commodious part of it, it was judged by a Committee of the Town necessary to remove the Granary from the place it then stood in, to where it now is, and the Petitioner (being One of that Committee) finding that the Granary had till then been without a Cellar, thought it very inconvenient that so good a Building should remain so any longer, and thereupon proposed the things being done, after it was removed, upon this the Towns Committee proposed to the Petitioner that he should have a term of time in it, if he would undertake it himself, to which he suddenly [**339.**] Agreed for Sixteen years, immediately went about & Accomplished it, at the Cost of more than Two Hundred Pounds, the then Currency, altho' he was afterwards Enjoined by the Committee to Lath and Plaister under the lower Floor of the Granary, which he never Expected to do, when he agreed for that term of time, but so it is that notwithstanding he hath had the Sixteen years in it, the 12th. of December last, yet during that whole time he has had Opportunity to hire it out but 2½ years at the rate of Thirty Pounds Old tenor p. Annum, and about 2½ years more at the Rate of Sixty Pounds, the other part of the 16 years, it hath lain mostly Unimproved, unless it be by his sometimes housing Pitch, and Tarr in it, at a very considerable Expence —— The Petitioner therefore humbly Conceives that as it was his real Intention to Serve the Town in what he did, so the Town will not suffer him to be a Looser thereby, which he Inevitably must be, unless he hath a longer time allowed him therein or be otherewise relieved by the Town, which he humbly submitted to their Consideration; said Petition being Read —— Voted that for the Considerations mentioned, and reasons given in said Petition, the said Thomas Hubbards term in said Cellar be and hereby is extended Ten Years longer to commence the 12th. of December last, and that the Selectmen Execute a Lease thereof to him accordingly.

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The Committee appointed the 12th. of March last, to Audit the Accompts of Mr. Treasurer Jeffries now reported, that they had attended that Service, and find the same right cast & well Vouched, in which Accot. he Charges himself with sundry Fines, Rents and other Incomes of the Town, as also with the Tax of £4,000 committed to the Collectors, all which Amounts (including the Ballance of Old Accot. to the Sum of £8575,, 3,, 9¾ —— And the said Treasurer discharges himself by sundry Abatements made the Collectors, by Drafts made by the Selectmen Amo. to £2525,, 4,, 1¼ and by Drafts made by the Overseers of the Poor, which contain the Charges of the Almshouse and Workhouse, Amo. to £1316,, 11,, 11¾ which said Comtee. inspected in a very particular manner by Examining every particular Voucher, produced by the Overseers for the Amount of that Sum, and every other branch of Publick Charge, all Amo. to £5142,, 5,, 11½ [340.] By which it appears that when all the Taxes Rents & Incomes of the Town are in, the Ballance will be £3432,, 17,, 10¼ which the said Treasurer is further to Account for, as appears by the Tryal Ballance of said Accompt, given in by said Committee and on file, which Report and Accompt being Read,

Voted the same be Accepted.

Voted, that Mr. William Cooper, Mr. Thomas Tyler, Thomas Greene John Wheelwright and Thomas Oxnard Esqrs. be and they are appointed a Committee to Audit the Accompts of Mr. Treasurer Jeffries, and also the Accompts of the Overseers of the Poor, and the said Committee are hereby directed and Impowered to Inspect every Particular Accot. of the Moneys expended for the Use of the Almshouse, and every other Branch of the Publick Charges, and they are desired to make Report thereon, as soon as they have done the same.

The Committee appointed the twelfth day of March last, on the Petition of Isaac Dupee, Solomon Kneeland & others, relating to their Claim of Lands mentioned in said Petition, now Reported that on the twenty sixth of December last, pursuant to the power given them, they Executed Bonds of Submission on behalf of the Town unto Isaac Dupee, Solomon Kneeland and Thomas Walley on behalf of themselves and others that Claim the Lands & Premisses in Dispute, who likewise Executed Bonds to said Committee, whereby was refer'd their Right Claim and Demand, as also the Right Claim and Demand of the Town, to said Lands unto the Determination of Samuel Danforth Esqr. of Cambridge James Russell and Samuel Bradstreet of Charlestown Merchants; who accordingly met and fully heard the Committee & the other Claimers upon the Premisses, and on the twenty eighth day of February last, gave in their final Award and Determination thereupon —— which Bond and Award the said Committee Read and presented to the Town for their Confirmation, and said Committee further Reported that they apprehended it to be best that said Bonds and Award be Enter'd upon the Towns Record, to prevent any Disputes relating to said Lands for the future —— thereupon It was Voted that said Report be Accepted, and that the Lands given and Assigned to the Petitioners and other Claimers by said Refer-

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rees be and hereby [341.] Are Confirmed unto them and thier Heirs forever as is mentioned in their Award. Also Voted that the said Bonds of Submission and said Award be Enter'd at length on the Towns Records to prevent any Disputes relating to said Land for the future.

Which Bond and Award are as follows. Viz^t.

Know all Men by these presents that We Isaac Dupee Mariner and Solomon Kneeland Leather dresser and Thomas Walley Merchant all of Boston in the County of Suffolk (for Ourselves and such other persons as shall or do claim the Lands and Premisses hereafter described) are holden and stand firmly Bound and Obliged unto William Fairfield Bricklayer, Thomas Greene Merchant & Joseph Calef Tanner all of Boston aforesaid (as they are a Committee of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston aforesaid specially appointed and Impowered by them at their Meeting the 23^d. of March last to Settle the Claim of said Town to the same Lands) in the full and just Sum of Five Hundred Pounds lawful money, to be paid to said William Fairfield, Thomas Greene and Joseph Calef their Excōr's Admōr's or Assigns to and for the only Use and benefit of said Town, To the true Payment whereof We Bind Ourselves Our heirs Excōr's and Admōr's jointly and severally firmly by these presents, Sealed with Our seals. Dated the twenty sixth day of December, One Thousand Seven Hundred & Fifty three.

Whereas the Inhabitants of the said Town of Boston at the Superiour Court of Judicature held at Boston within and for said County of Suffolk on the Eighth day of March 1749 Recovered Judgment against William Torrey of Boston aforesaid Baker for the Possession of a Peice of Land Situate in Boston aforesaid bounded Northerly Seventy eight feet on a Street or Lane that leads from Water Street to Olivers Dock Easterly Sixteen feet of Land of Christopher Tilden and Thirty feet & an half Easterly on Land of M^r. Hunt and others, Southerly Thirty feet on Water Street, Westerly Thirty feet on Land in Possession of John Shaw, Northerly twenty six feet on said Land in Possession of said Shaw Westerly twenty seven feet on said Land in said Shaws Possession, Southerly fourteen feet on Water Street, Westerly twenty six feet on Land improved by James Beighton, Northerly twenty four feet on said Land in the improvement of said Beighton & Westerly, Sixteen feet on Land in the improvement of James Allen Esqr. with the Appurtenances, And afterwards had Possession thereof delivered to their [342.] Selectmen accordingly. And Whereas the above Bounden Isaac Dupee and Solomon Kneeland for themselves and other Claimers of the above said Lands preferr'd a Petition to the said Town at their Meeting in May 1752. Setting forth (among other things) that they apprehended they have a just and legal right and Title to the Lands aforesaid, and they were never Informed of the aforesaid Action or Suit brought by the Town for . . . Possession of the same Lands, which they would have Defended and that they could have made out their Title to the same, if they had proper Notice given 'em thereof, praying the

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Town that said Affair may be Amicably Settled by Referring the Claims of the Town and the Petitioners to such Persons as may be mutually chose by them to Determine the same, or that it be otherwise settled as should be judged best; and thereupon the Town appointed a Committee to Consider what they apprehended was best for the Town to do in said Affair, who Reported that they had fully heard said Claimers and said William Torrey, relating to the matters suggested in said Petition, and that Justice might be done and Unnecessary Expence in the Law either to the Town or the Claimers prevented they judged it would be best to Refer the Claims of each to the Determination of such Persons as should be Mutually chose, they to hear and finally judge of the same, as tho' no Action had been brought or Judgment given in favour of the Town, which Report was Read, and Accepted by the Town at their publick Meeting the 23d. of March last, And it was then Voted that the said William Fairfield, Thomas Greene and Joseph Calef be a Committee for said Town, and were fully Authorized and Impowered for and in behalf of the Town to join with the Petitioners and any other Persons that Claim any Right or Interest in said Lands in referring their respective Claims to such Persons as shall be by them Mutually Chose, and said Committee were also Impowered to Sign & Execute such Bonds as may be judged necessary to Oblige the Town to Abide by the Award or Determination of such Referees or a Major part of them provided the other Parties also give sufficient Security for abiding by such Determination, and whatsoever said Committee should do or cause to be done in the Premisses the Town promised to Ratify and Confirm, And Whereas the said William Fairfield Thomas Greene and Joseph Calef a Committee impowered as aforesaid, and the said Isaac Dupee Solomon Kneeland and Thomas Walley for themselves and the other Claimers to said Lands, have Mutually [343.] Chosen and Appointed Samuel Danforth of Cambridge Esqr. and James Russell and Samuel Bradstreet of Charlestown Merchants Referrees, to hear them relating to their respective Claims Title and Interest in said Lands, and finally to Judge and Determine upon the same as though no Action had been brought or Judgment of Court given in favour of said Town.

The Condition therefore of the aforewritten Obligation is such, that if the said Isaac Dupee & Solomon Kneeland & Thomas Walley and the other Persons who Claim any Title or Interest in said Lands their respective Heirs Excōrs, or Admors shall and do stand to Abide by, and in all respects fulfill and perform the Award Arbitrement or Determination of the Referrees aforesaid or of a Major part of them; relating to their Title and Interest in the Lands & Premisses aforesaid and not any ways depart from the same, Provided it be delivered, or be ready to be delivered to such of the Parties as shall desire it, under the hands and Seals of said Referrees or a Major part of them, on or before the tenth day of March next ensuing, And in the mean while Attend said Referrees or a Major part of them, with their Papers and Evidences at such times and places as they shall Appoint, and all without fraud or

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delay then this aforewritten Obligation shall be void, otherwise shall be in full force.

Signed Sealed and Delivered
in presence of Us,
EZK^L^. GOLDTHWAIT
JOHN SAVEL

ISAAC DUPEE & a Seal
SOL^O^. KNEELAND & a Seal
THOMAS WALLEY & a Seal.

We the Subscribers Referrees chosen and appointed in and by the aforewritten Bond of Submission, have met and heard the respective Parties in said Bond named and fully Considered of such Evidence as they produced relating to their several Claims to the Lands therein described, and do Award that the Judgment aforesaid, recovered by the Inhabitants of said Town of Boston for Possession of said Lands and the Writ of Facias habere Possessionem granted thereupon, be and hereby are made Null and void, and in Consideration thereof, We the said Referrees (by and with the full and free Consent of the said Parties) do hereby Assign unto the said Town of Boston part of the same Lands, Viz^t^. Out of the Lands of the said Solomon Kneeland thirteen feet two inches in length, and Five feet three inches in breadth from the Middle of the Pav'd Gutter, Out of the Lands of [**344.**] The Heirs of John Walley Esqr. Decēd, Forty seven feet and an half in length and Five feet three in breadth (both of which Lands are on the South side of said Gutter) and out of the Lands of said Isaac Dupee Seventy Nine feet & Eight Inches in length, and Four feet Nine Inches in breadth from the Middle of said Gutter (said Dupee's Land being on the North side of said Gutter) which said Lands the said Town of Boston are to hold as an Estate of Inheritance in Fee Simple forever, and are hereby deem'd to be said Towns full proportion of the Lands whereof they had recovered possession by force of the Judgment aforementioned. Witness Our hands and Seals the twenty eighth day of February, One Thousand Seven Hundred & Fifty four.

Signed Sealed & Delivered
in the presence of us.
JOHN SAVEL
EZEK^L^. GOLDTHWAIT

SAMUEL DANFORTH & a Seal
JAMES RUSSELL & a Seal
SAMUEL BRADSTREET & a Seal.

Capt. Isaac Dupee was chose Clerk of Faneuil Hall Market for the year ensuing.

The Petition of sundry Inhabitants for Paving Moon Court Street Read. ——

Voted, That the same be Dismissed.

Voted that the Assessors be and hereby are directed and required to begin to Sit and make the Taxes of the current year the first Week in August next, and so continue Sitting de Die in Diem, until they have Compleated the same, provided they shall then have received the Warrants from the Province Treasurer, and from the Court of Sessions for the Taxes.

Voted that the Committee this day chose to Audit the Accompts of the Treasurer and Overseers of the Poor, be desired when they Attend that Service, to prepare a List of the Names of all such Persons as Receive Charity from the Town out of the House, and Present it to the Town with their report, and that the same be

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lodged in the Town Clerks Office for the Inspection of any of the Inhabitants that shall desire it, Also Voted that said Committee be desired to prepare an Acco^{t}. of the general Articles in the Selectmens, and Overseers Drafts, and lay the same before the Town.

[**345.**] Voted, that all Matters that remain unfinished be and hereby are refer'd over to the Meeting in May next to be then Considered and Acted upon.

Thanks was Voted the Moderator.

Then the Meeting was Dismiss'd.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston legally qualified and Warn'd in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the fifteenth day of May A.D. 1754.

Prayer was made by the Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Samuel Mather.

The Precept and Warrant for calling the Meeting —— Read

Sundry Laws —— Read.

M^{r}. Samuel Grant one of the Selectmen propos'd in their Name to the Inhabitants Assembled to proceed to the Choice of One or more Persons to represent them in the Great and General Court or Assembly to be held at Boston upon Wednesday the twenty ninth day of May current, and in order thereto, to Consider and Ascertain the Number of Gentlemen to be Elected, accordingly It was Voted to proceed to the Choice of four Representatives, and it was then declar'd that the Poll be clos'd at twelve o'Clock.

The Votes being Collected the Number of Voters were found to be 603. and upon sorting 'em it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chose Viz^{t}.

	Votes.
Samuel Welles Esqr.	392
James Allen Esqr.	549
Thomas Hubbard Esqr.	586
M^{r}. James Bowdoin	430

The Election of Representatives being over, and the same declared by the Selectmen.

The Inhabitants proceeded to bring in their Votes for a Moderator, and upon Sorting 'em, it appeared that the Honble. Thomas Hubbard Esqr. was chose by a great Majority.

[**346.**] Sundry Petitions —— Read.

The Selectmen appointed a Committee the 15th. of May last to Visit the Schools, now made the following Report, Viz^{t}.

To the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston in Town Meeting Assembled May 15. 1754.

Pursuant to a Vote of the Town of Boston at their Meeting the 15th. of May last, desiring the Selectmen to Visit the several Publick Schools, and Invite such Gentlemen to Accompany them therein, as they should think proper do now Report.

That on the 29th. day of June last, We Attended that Service Accompanied by the following Gentlemen, Viz^{t}.

The Honble. Jacob Wendell Esqr.
Richard Bill Esqr.

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Andrew Oliver Esqr.
Judge Sewall
The Gent^{n}. the Representatives
of Boston.
The Rev^{d}. D^{r}. Sewall
D^{r}. Chauncey
M^{r}. Prince
M^{r}. Eliot
M^{r}. Cooper
Daniel Henchman Esqr.
Charles Apthorp Esqr.
Thomas Hancock Esqr.
John Phillips Esqr.
John Hill Esqr.
M^{r}. Isaac Walker
M^{r}. John Barrett
M^{r}. Ebenezer Storer
M^{r}. James Pitts
M^{r}. Joseph Sherburn
M^{r}. John Tudor
M^{r}. Peter Chardon
M^{r}. David Jeffries

And found that in the South Grammar School there was 120 Scholars, in the South Writing School 320 Scholars, in the Writing School in Queen Street there were 85 Scholars, in the North Grammar School 43 Scholars, and in the North Writing School 280 Scholars, all in very good order.

SAMUEL GRANT
THOMAS HILL
JOSHUA HENSHAW } Selectmen of Boston.
JOSEPH JACKSON
SAMUEL HEWES

Read and Accepted, and Voted that the Gentlemen the Selectmen be and hereby are desired to Visit the Schools this present year, & Invite such Gentlemen to Accompany them as they shall think proper.

[347.] The Committee appointed tne 11th. of March last, to Enquire what Fines have been paid into the Town Treasury for several years past, when they were paid, by whom, and the respective Sums so paid, and to Consider what Method the Inhabitants had best take to recover such Fines as they judge may be now due to the Town, now Report, That the Fines paid into the Town Treasury from the 13th. of June 1739, to this day, by several of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace and Sheriffs Am^{o}. to £539 ,, 12 ,, 8. Old tenor, & £43 ,, 8 ,, 6. lawful money, as by a particular Acco^{t}. thereof, and of the Names of the Persons who paid the same, which said Committee exhibited to the Town appears, and as those Justices who have paid, did never render legal Accompts, and as many others have never yet paid any Sum into the Treasury, and from whom said Committee apprehended there is considerable due, they further report as their Opinion that

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the best Method, the Town can take to Obtain what is due to them, is to direct the Treasurer of the Town to Prosecute such Justices as are living, and the Heirs Excors or Admors—of such as are Deced—in the manner the Law directs at the next Inferiour Court to be held for this County, in case they don't by the tenth of June next, render a legal Acco^t. to him and pay the Sums that shall thereupon appear to be respectively due from them to the Town, which Report being Read and Debated, Voted, that the same be Accepted with the following Amendment, Viz^t. That the Treasurer be directed to wait, on such Justices of the Town as are living, and the Heirs Excors — or Admors — of such as are Deced, — and require of them an Acco^t. of the Fines they have not paid, and those that do not render to him a legal Acco^t. and pay the Fines thereon due, to the Town by said tenth of June, said Treasurer is hereby directed to prosecute in the Law for the same, at the Inferiour Court of Common pleas to be held at Boston in July next.

M^r. Nathaniel Barber was chose an Assessor in the room of M^r. John Winslow, chose in March last, who is Excused.

M^r. Henry Allen was chose Surveyor of Boards, in the room of M . Benjamin Russell, chose in March last, and Excus'd.

The Petition of James Allen Esqr. and M^r. Andrew Oliver jun^r. praying a Road may be laid out adjoining to their Lands in the Common, was read, and after a short Debate thereon. ——

Voted that said Petition be Dismissed.

[348.] The Petition of a great Number of Inhabitants living at the Southerly part of the Town, setting forth, that the two Southerly burying places in the Town, are, and for many years past, have been so crowded with Dead bodies, that it is scarcely possible for the Sextons to dig a Grave as it ought to be Dug, but what they must necessarily disturb the Ashes of two or three or more, and it is very often the Case that fresh Corps are dug up, that have not been long interr'd, which sight is scarcely decent, And forasmuch also as many of the Inhabitants of the South end have a great way to carry their Dead, which renders it very inconvenient &c. said Petitioners pray that the Town will be pleased to take the Affair into their Consideration, and appoint a meet number of Persons to fix upon a suitable place for a Burying place at the South End, and make return of their doings therein as soon as may be, or otherwise as the Town may think most convenient, by which many difficulties and Inconveniences may be avoided. said Petition was Read, and thereupon

It was Voted that Thomas Hancock & Thomas Greene Esq^rs. M^r. Jacob Parker, John Hill and John Phillips Esq^rs. be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to Consider of said Petition, and view such places at the South part of the Town, as they shall judge best for a Burial place there, and Report their Opinion of the same to the Town as soon as may be.

The Petition of Thomas Pearson praying an Allowance may be made him for his House blown up, to stop the great Fire that happen'd in the Year 1690. was read and Voted that the same be dismiss'd.

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The Petition of James Fairservice relating to the Sweeping of Chimnies, was Read ——

Voted that the same be dismiss'd.

Voted, that the Gentlemen the Representatives of the Town be and hereby are desired at the next Session of the General Court, to move that they may have liberty to bring in a Bill, that some Method be taken so far as may be to prevent the frequent Firing of Chimnies.

[**349.**] Voted, that the Gentlemen the Representatives of the Town be and hereby they are desired to Use their utmost Endeavours and Influence in the General Court, to prevent a Bill now depending there, for granting certain Liberties and Immunities to the Company of Cadets, under the Command of Col^{o}. Pollard, being pass'd into a Law.

Voted, A Grant of Three Thousand Pounds lawful money, be rais'd by a Tax upon Polls and Estates within the Town of Boston, for Relief of the Poor, and defreying other necessary Charges arising within the Town the year ensuing.

Voted, That Charles Apthorp, Thomas Hancock, Samuel Welles Thomas Greene and John Erving Esqr. M^{r}. William Cooper and D^{r}. William Clarke, be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to Consider of some Method of lessening the Publick Taxes of the Town, and particularly the Charge of the Poor at the Almshouse, which the Committee are desired fully to Enquire into, as also whether there can be some easier Method found for raising the Moneys necessary for paying the Publick Charges, than by the common way of Taxing the People.

Voted, that the Gentlemen the Representatives of the Town be and hereby are desired to move to the General Court at their next Sessions, that a general Valuation of Estates in the Province may be taken this year, and that they Urge that the Inhabitants of this Town, may be allowed to bring in a Valuation of their Estates in the same manner as the Inhabitants of other Towns do.

The Petition of Gilbert and Lewis Deblois was read, Setting forth, that the Petitioners about two or three years since Purchased a Peice of Land in Boston bounded on One side on Hanover Street, and on another on Queen Street, that they have since Erected a Brick Dwelling house on said Land, & finding the Streets there to be very narrow, they took out of their own Land about Three feet in Wedth, and about Sixty nine feet in length and added it to Hanover Street, so that two Carts or Carriages may now pass with safety, that Queen Street where the Petitioners House stands is very narrow, and two Carts can't pass at the same time without great danger, that there are several Shops or Buildings [**350.**] Belonging to the Town that are the other side of said Street, and now very much out of repair, and as they must soon be repaired, the Petitioners would be very glad if the Town would then take off such a part thereof as may be judged necessary for Widening said Street, which the Petitioners apprehended would save some Expence in the repairs, and make the Shops so much more convenient, as they will fetch equal Rent to what they now do, they being now very deep and

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dark, but if the Town should not incline to repair said Buildings, and make this Addition to the Street, which the Petitioners can't but think they will, considering what they have already done for Widening Hanover Street, the Petitioners proposed that the Town would grant to them a Lease for Twenty or Thirty years of the Lands and Shops belonging to the Town there, upon such terms as shall be agreed upon by a Committee chose by the Town, and the Petitioners they having the liberty in repairing to make such Alterations in said Shops as they and said Committee shall judge to be best both for Widening said Street and the Convenience of the Shops, and as this must be a manifest advantage to the Town, the Petitioners prayed the same might be now taken into Consideration and Acted upon accordingly —— and after some Debate thereon It was Voted that the Selectmen be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to Consider of this Petition, and Report as soon as may be, what they apprehend it best for the Town to do thereon.

Voted, that the Sum of One Hundred & twenty Pounds lawful money be Allowed and paid unto Mr. Peleg Wiswall for his Salary as Master of the North Grammar School for the ensuing year, the same to be paid him quarterly, and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the Sum of One Hundred & twenty Pounds lawful money, be Allowed and paid unto Mr. John Lovell for his Salary as Master of the South Grammar School for the ensuing year, the same to be paid him quarterly, and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted, that the Sum of One Hundred Pounds lawful [351.] Money be Allowed and paid unto Mr. Abia Holbrook Master of the Writing School in the Common for the ensuing year, to be paid him quarterly and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the Sum of One Hundred Pounds lawful money be Allowed and paid unto Mr. Zechariah Hicks, Master of the North Writing School for the ensuing year, to be paid quarterly and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the Sum of Eighty Pounds lawful money be Allowed to Mr. Samuel Holyoke Master of the Writing School in Queen Street for the ensuing year, to be paid him quarterly, and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the Sum of Fifty Pounds lawful money be Allowed to Mr. Nathaniel Gardner Usher of the South Grammar School for the ensuing year, to be paid him quarterly, and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the Sum of Seventy Pounds lawful money be Allowed to Mr. Samuel Holbrook as One of the Masters of the Writing School in Queen Street for the ensuing year, to be paid him quarterly, as it shall become due.

Voted that the Sum of Fifty Pounds be Allowed to Mr. John Procter junr. as Usher of the North Writing School for the ensuing year, to be paid him quarterly as it shall become due.

Voted that the Sum of Thirty four Pounds lawful money be

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Allowed to Mr. Abia Holbrook Master of the South Writing School in the Common for such Usher as he shall Employ in said School.

Voted that the Sum of One Hundred Pounds lawful money be Allowed to Mr. David Jeffries for his Services as Treasurer of the Town for the year past, and for all his Expences in that Office.

Voted that the Sum of Twenty Pounds lawful money be Allowed to Mr. Abijah Adams, for his Services as Clerk of Faneuil Hall Market, the year past.

Voted unanimously, that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby is given to the Honble. Thomas Hubbard Esqr. Moderator of this Meeting for transacting the Business thereof.

Then the Meeting was Dismiss'd.

[352.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston legally qualified and warn'd in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Tuesday the 7th. day of August A.D. 1754.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting, Read.

The Honble. James Allen Esqr. was chose Moderator by a handy Vote.

That Article in the Warrant, Vizt. "To know the minds of the Inhabitants with regard to a Bill now depending in the General Court laying an Excise on the private Consumption of Wines and Spirits distill'd," was taken into Consideration, and the Abstract of said Bill, and Governour Shirleys Speech relating to it, being read a long Debate thereon was had, and it was unanimously Voted,

1st. That it is the sense of the Town that, that part of the Excise Bill contain'd in the Abstract now read, is contrary to those Principles upon which Our happy Constitution is founded, as well as destructive of those Priviledges which it Warrants and Defends, that it is Vexatious and Oppressive and tends to Weaken the just Authority of an Oath, and to prejudice the Morals of the Community.

2ly. Voted unanimously that Thanks be returned to His Excellency the Governour, for his Paternal Goodness and wise Conduct in relation to said Bill, & that his Excellency be requested still to continue his Care for Us in this respect.

3ly. Voted unanimously, that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby is given to the Gentlemen the Representatives of the Town for the strenuous Opposition they made to said Bill, and that they be desired still to Use their utmost Endeavours to prevent said Bills being pass'd into a Law.

Thomas Hancock Esqr. Informed the Town, that a considerable number of Gentlemen, Merchants and others Inhabitants of this Town waited upon His Excellency Governour Shirley in December 1745, with their Address of Congratulation to him upon his safe Arrival from Louisbourg [353.] And requested of him to permit 'em to have his Picture drawn at their Expence, with a design of preserving it in this Town as a Memorial of his Excellencys publick

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Services; which mark of their respect his Excellency was pleas'd to Accept; And as His Excellency among other Instances of his Paternal Care of the People of this Province, hath lately given a most signal proof of his tender regard for their Civil rights by interfering in favour of them, on Occasion of the Bill of Excise pass'd by both Houses of the Great and General Court in June last, and of his Vigilance and unwearied Attention for securing the Province against the repeated Ravages of the Eastern Indians, and Incroachments of the French in his late Successful Expedition for that purpose into the Eastern parts, The said Gentlemen and Merchants now offer to make the Town a present of the said Picture to be hung up in Faneuil Hall. —— It was thereupon unanimously.

Voted that the aforesaid Offer be Accepted, and that His Excellency's said Picture be hung up in Faneuil Hall as a Memorial of Publick Respect and Gratitude to him for his aforesaid Services.

Also Voted unanimously, that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby is given to those Gentlemen and Merchants who were at the Expence of having his Excellency Governour Shirleys Picture drawn, now Ordered to be hung up in Faneuil Hall.

Voted unanimously that an Address of Thanks be presented to his Excellency the Governour upon his return from the Eastern parts of the Province, and that the Selectmen be a Committee to prepare an Address accordingly, and lay it before the Town at the Adjournment of this Meeting.

The Affair of appointing a Master for the Writing School in Queen Street, in the room of Mr. Samuel Holbrook who has resign'd, was taken into Consideration —— and Voted that the Selectmen have the Appointment of a Master for said School for the remaining part of the present year.

Voted that the Sum of Twenty Shillings be Allowed and paid out of the Treasury to Mr. Samuel Holbrook for Supplying the Scholars with Ink during the Time he was Master of the School in Queen Street.

[**354.**] Voted that this Meeting be Adjourned to Tuesday the 17th. of September next, at Nine o'Clock in the forenoon, and the same was Adjourn'd accordingly.

September 17. 1754. The Inhabitants met according to Adjournment.

The Selectmen appointed a Committee the 15th. of May last on the Petition of Gilbert and Lewis Deblois, now reported that they had Viewed the Street mentioned in said Petition and the Towns Shops there and conferr'd several times with the Petitioner, and judge that it will not be for the Interest of the Town to grant a Lease for any term of said Shops, but think it best, that the Street there should be Widened by taking off about three feet of the Shops, but as the Expence of doing it, will Amount to about Twenty Pounds more than repairing them as they now stand, over and above the loss of part of the Towns Shop in Mr. Tuckermans Possession, in the length of it, they leave it to the Town to Act therein, as they shall apprehend best, which Report being read, Mr. Gilbert Deblois One of the Petitioners desired to be heard

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thereupon, and he being accordingly heard, a debate ensued thereupon, & afterwards said Gilbert Deblois made the following Proposal to the Town Viz^t^. That if the the Town will take off about three feet from said Shops in order to Widen said Street, as it will for the future better Accommodate his House, the Petitioners will in Consideration thereof give to the Town Thirteen Pounds Six Shillings & Eight pence lawful money. Whereupon It was

Voted that upon said Petitioners paying that Sum the said Street be Widen'd, by taking off about three feet from said Shops, which three feet is forever hereafter to remain open and part of said Street.

The Committee appointed the 15th. of May last, on the Petition of sundry Inhabitants living at the South part of the Town for a Burying place there, Reported that they had Viewed several places at the South part of the Town in order to have a Burial place there, and find the most suitable and Commodious to be that part of the late Col^o^. Fitch's Pasture at the bottom of the Common that now belongs to M^r^. Andrew Oliver jun^r^. and upon Conferring [355.] With him, the Committee find, that to Accommodate the Town he will Consent to dispose of it, on such terms as shall be Agreed upon, between him and the Town. said Report being Read,

It was Voted that the Same be Accepted, and said Committee are desired and Impowered to Treat with M^r^. Oliver relating to the Price of Said Land, and to Report the same to the Town, as soon as may be, for their Confirmation.

The Selectmen appointed a Committee the 7th. of August last, to prepare an Address of Thanks to his Excellency Governour Shirley, now Reported a Draft of the same, which was Read, and is as follows, Viz^t^.

To His Excellency William Shirley Esqr. Captain General Governour and Commander in Chief in and over His Majesty's Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England.

The humble Address of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston.

May it please your Excellency,

His Majesty's most Loyal & Dutiful Subjects the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston in General Town Meeting Assembled, beg leave to Express their sincere Joy at your Excellency's safe and happy Arrival from the Eastward.

We Congratulate your Excellency upon the Success with which the Execution of that Plan which you have laid to Attach the Indians in those parts to His Majesty's Interest, and to prevent the Encroachments of the French has been hitherto attended.

Your Excellency's late seasonable Interposition in favour of the Natural Rights of Englishmen, so greatly, tho' We trust not wilfully, affected by the late Excise Bill, affords us the most convincing proofs of the Rectitude of your Excellency's Sentiments and the Affection of your Patriot heart for that Constitution, which sweetens, improves and Exalts every other blessing of Life.

We cannot feel the decay of Our Commerce, and the many Burdens which this Town labour under, without the most Melancholly Impressions, but these admit of some Alleviations from your

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Excellency's wise and vigorous Endeavours to preserve Our dearer Liberties neither is it in Our power to relish that Relief with regard to the former which must necessarily grow out of [**356.**] Those Methods which tend to destroy the Latter.

We would hope that the Honourable Court may upon mature Consideration find reason to alter their Judgment respecting this Affair, which if they should renew and insist upon, We humbly apprehend will be attended with the most Mischievous Consequences, unless your Excellency should finally refuse your Sanction to it.

The Noble Pattern your Excellency has in this Affair held up to Our view, highten'd by your Situation in Government and Augmented by your Connection with the Prerogative, convinces us of the tender regard you have for the Liberties of this People, and will not we hope be ever forgotten,

And as this particular Instance of your Excellency's Goodness added to Our past Experience of your known Abilities has increas'd Our Confidence in your Administration, it shall be Our study to Afford your Excellency all those Demonstrations of Duty and Affection, which Truth and Justice require, and your Excellency's wise & good Conduct will, we doubt not, Secure and Perpetuate.

Boston Septr. 17th. 1754.

And thereupon.

It was *unanimously* Voted that the same be Accepted, and that a fair Copy thereof, be prepared and Signed by the Town Clerk and that the Honble. James Allen Esqr. the Moderator of this Meeting, and the Gentlemen the Selectmen be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to wait upon His Excellency, and in the Name of the Town, Present the same to him.

Voted that all Matters and Things that remain unfinished be refer'd over to the next Town Meeting, to be then Considered of and Acted upon.

Then the Meeting was Dismissed.

[**357.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston legally qualified and Warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled, at Faneuil Hall on Tuesday the 17th. day of September, A.D. 1754.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting, Read.

The Honble. James Allen Esqr. was chose Moderator.

The Article in the Warrant for which this Meeting was called Viz^{t}. "To Determine whether the Town will take upon them the Defence of a Suit brought against the Assessors by Andrew Oliver Esqr. and M^{r}. William Phillips, and also any other Suits that may be brought against them of the like nature," —— was taken into Consideration, and after some Debate thereon ——

It was Voted that the Town will Defend them in the Suit aforesaid, and all other Suits that shall hereafter be brought against them of the like nature.

Voted that this Meeting be and hereby is Adjourn'd to Friday the 11th. of October next, at nine o'Clock in the forenoon.

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Friday the 11th. of October, the Town met according to Adjournment.

The Committee appointed the 17th. of September last, to present the Address of Thanks to his Excellency the Governour, Reported that they had done the same, and that his Excellency was pleas'd to give them the following Answer, Vizt.

Gentlemen,

I Thank you for this Address; The sense which you there Express of my Attention to His Majesty's Service, and the preservation of the rights and liberties of his People within this Government, give me a solid Satisfaction; nor can I pass over in Silence your late Vote for placing my Picture in Faneuil Hall, with which your Selectmen acquainted me, without Acknowledging the pleasure, I feel from that publick mark of your respect for me.

Whenever it may be in my power to contribute towards reviving the decay'd Trade, and easing the Burthens of this Town, which you mention in your Address, I shall gladly [358.] Embrace the Opportunity, and you may be assur'd, that my Duty to the King, and the Welfare of his good People within this Province shall ever be the Rule of my Administration.

W. SHIRLEY.

To the Freeholders & other Inhabitants,
of the Town of Boston in General Town
Meeting Assembled.

Province-house
Septr. 19th. 1754.

Voted that His Excellency's Answer be Enter'd upon the Records of the Town.

The Committee appointed the 17th. of September last to Confer with Mr. Andrew Oliver junr. relating to the Purchase Consideration of a Peice of Land belonging to him at the bottom of the Common for a Burial place — Reported, that Mr. Oliver was willing to Sell the same to the Town for Two Hundred Pounds lawful money, which Sum said Committee apprehend to be a very reasonable price, which being read —— It was Voted that the same be Accepted —— also Voted that upon said Andrew Olivers Executing a good and legal Deed of said Lands to the Town, the Selectmen be and hereby are directed to give Mr. Oliver a Draft on the Treasury for the Sum of Two Hundred Pounds lawful money, and in case it should so happen that the Treasurer cannot Discharge said Draft in three months, that he then be and hereby is Impowered to take up, on Interest said Sum, or such part thereof as he shall want, and pay the same to Mr. Oliver for said Lands accordingly.

Voted that all Matters and Affairs that remain unfinished be and hereby are refer'd over to the next Town Meeting for Consideration.

Then the Meeting was Dismissed.

[359.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, legally qualified and warned in Publick

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Town Meeting Assembled, at Faneuil Hall, on Friday the third day of January A.D. 1755.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting —— Read.

John Phillips Esqr. was chose Moderator of this Meeting by a written Vote.

The Petition of a great Number of Inhabitants for calling this Meeting was Read.

The Act of the Province lately pass'd, Entitled An Act for granting unto his Majesty an Excise upon Spirits distill'd, and Wines, and upon Limes Lemmons and Oranges was read.

The Town proceeded to take into Consideration the Article in the Warrant for calling this Meeting, Viz^{t}. "To Consider and Determine what may be proper for the Town to do, in relation to An Act lately pass'd the General Court, Entitled An Act for granting unto his Majesty an Excise upon Spirits distill'd, and Wines, and upon Limes Lemmons & Oranges." and after some Debate thereon, It was unanimously

Voted that the Town will make Application at Home in order to prevent said Acts obtaining the Royal Assent.

And then It was Voted that an Agent be chose by the Town to appear in their behalf at Home, in order to prevent said Acts obtaining the Royal Assent.

Voted unanimously, that Christopher Kilby of London Esqr. be and hereby is appointed Agent for the Town, and he is hereby fully Authorized and Impowered to appear on behalf of the Town, and to Use his utmost Endeavours to prevent said Acts obtaining the Royal Assent —— Also Voted unanimously that the said Christopher Kilby Esqr. be and hereby is appointed Agent for the Town in any other Matters and Affairs that the Town are concerned in, or may hereafter have depending in London, said Agent to Conduct himself according to such directions and Instructions as he may from time to time receive from the Town relating to said Affairs.

[**360.**] Voted that John Phillips Esqr. the Moderator of this Meeting, the Gentlemen the Selectmen, Charles Apthorp Richard Dana and Thomas Greene Esqr. M^{r}. William Cooper M^{r}. Royal Tyler and M^{r}. Isaac Walker be and hereby are appointed a Committee forthwith to forward the Letter now read to M^{r}. Agent Kilby, and to make such further Additions thereto as they may judge proper. Also Voted that said Committee transmit to the Agent, Governour Shirleys Speech made by him the 17th. of June last, relating to said Act, and such other Papers as they shall judge requisite.

Voted that Christopher Kilby Esqr. be paid all such Expence and Charge, as he shall be at from time to time, in transacting the Affairs of the Town as their Agent, and that he also have an honourable Allowance made him for his Care and Trouble.

Voted that the Committee aforesaid be and they hereby are desired to Apply to the Clerk of the House of Representatives for the Copy of a Letter by them Wrote to M^{r}. Agent Bollan relating to the Act aforesaid.

Voted that if any of the Towns in the Province shall desire a

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Copy of the Votes now pass'd, and of the proceedings of this Meeting, it be given to them.

Voted that all Matters that remain unfinish'd be refer'd to the next Town Meeting, to be then Acted upon.

Then the Meeting was Dismiss'd.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston, legally qualified and warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Friday the 17th. day of January A.D. 1755.

The Precept and Warrant for calling this Meeting, Read.

Voted that the Town will proceed to the Choice of some suitable Person to Represent them in the General Court, in the room of the late Honble. James Allen Esqr. Deced — .

[361.] The Selectmen having declared to the Inhabitants that the Poll would be clos'd at twelve o'Clock —— The Inhabitants withdrew and brought in their Votes for a Representative, and upon sorting 'em it appeared there was in all 523 Voters, and that Mr. John Tyng had 347 Votes, Whereupon it was declared by the Selectmen that said John Tyng was duly Elected.

The Town then chose John Phillips Esqr. for the Moderator of this Meeting.

The Town then proceeded to take into Consideration that Article in the Warrant Vizt. "To Determine what Instructions the Town will give to their Representatives respecting a general Plan for Uniting the several Governments on the Continent, now under the Consideration of of the General Court." —— And an Extract of said Plan as agreed upon by the Commissioners of the several Governments on the Continent at Albany in June last, and a Report of the Committee of the General Court of this Province, being Read, and a long Debate had thereupon,

It was Voted that this Meeting be Adjourn'd to half an hour after two o'clock this Afternoon, and that this Affair be then further Debated and Considered of, and the Meeting was Adjourn'd to that time accordingly.

Afternoon, The Town met according to Adjournment.

The Debate in the forenoon relating to the Union was resum'd and the Extract of the Plan aforesaid, and said Report of the Committee was read, and after a very long Debate ——

It was Voted that the Gentlemen the Representatives of the Town be and hereby are Instructed to Use their utmost Endeavours to prevent the Plan now under Consideration of the General Court for an Union of the several Governments on the Continent taking Effect, —— And that they also Oppose any other Plan for an Union that may come under the Consideration of said General Court, whereby they shall Apprehend the Liberties and Priviledges of the People are Endangered.

Voted that all Matters refer'd over to this Meeting that remain unfinish'd, be further refer'd to the next Town Meeting, to be then Acted upon.

Thanks were Voted the Moderator.

Then the Meeting was Dismiss'd.

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[361½.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified & warned in Public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the tenth day of March A.D. 1755.

Prayer was made by the Reverend Mr. Ebenezer Pemberton

The Warrant for calling the Meeting Read.

Sundry Laws Read.

The Town proceeded to the choice of a Moderator by a written Vote and the Votes being brought in and sorted it appear'd that the Honble. Thomas Hubbard Esqr. was unanimously chose, and he accordingly took the Oath Required by the Act of the 27th. Year of His present Majesty relating to receiving & paying Bills of the other Governments.

Ezekiel Goldthwait was chose unanimously Town Clerk for the Year ensuing and having taken the Oath required by the Act of the 27th. Year of His present Majesty's Reign relating to receiving and paying Bills of Credit of the other Governments, took the Oath of Office which was administred to him by Joshua Winslow Esquire.

The Petitions were Read.

Voted that the Town proceed to the Choice of seven Selectmen and the Votes being brought in and sorted it appeared that.

Mr. Samuel Grant
Mr. Thomas Hill
Joshua Henshaw Esqr.
Capt. Joseph Jackson
Mr. Thomas Cushing
Capt. Samuel Hewes
Mr. John Scollay

were chose unanimously.

[362.] Voted that the Town proceed to the Choice of twelve Constables distinct from the Collectors of Taxes.

Voted that not more that two Constables that served the last Year should be now chose for the ensuing Year.

Voted that any Person that shall be chose into the Office of a Constable for the Year ensuing be excused from serving in that Office provided he pay into the Town Treasury Four Pounds lawful money.

David Jeffries was chose Treasurer for the ensuing Year and having taken the Oath Required by the 27th. of his present Majesty relating to his receiving and paying Bills of the other Governments, took the Oath of Office for the faithful discharge of his Duty, which were administred to him by Jacob Wendell Esqr.

Messrs. Thomas Child	Refuses to serve.
Alexander Cunningham	Excused
James Boies	Sworn
Andrew Campbell . . .	Sworn
Joseph Calef junr. . . .	Excused
Thomas Carnes	Excused
John Pigeon	Pay
William Thompson . . .	Excused
Ebenezer Lowell Senr. .	Pay

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John Pattin . . . . . Sworn
Thomas Pemberton . . Excused
Connelius Durant . . . Excused

were chose Constables

The Honble Jacob Wendell Esq:
John Hill Esq:
The Honble Thomas Hubbard Esq:
Daniel Henchman Esq:
The Honble Andrew Oliver Esqr.
M^{r}. Edward Bromfield
John Phillips Esq:
M^{r}. Isaac Walker
[362½.] Capt. Ebenezer Storer
M^{r}. Joseph Sherburne
Capt. Nathaniel Greenwood
M^{r}. Royall Tyler

were chose Overseers for the Year ensuing.

Voted that the thanks of Town be and hereby is given unto M^{r}. John Barrett and M^{r}. John Tudor for their good Overseers as Overseers of the Poor for several Year past.

The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for a County Treasurer, and they being Collected were Sealed up by a Constable Boyes to be by him kept and returned to the Court of General Sessions in April next.

Messrs. James Bailey . . . . . Sworn
Michael Burn . . . . . Excused
Augustus Hail . . . . . Sworn
John Wells . . . . . Sworn
Samuel Smith . . . . . Sworn
Samuel Barret . . . . . Excused

were chose Constables.

Messrs. William Fairfeild
Nathaniel Barber
John Kneeland
Peter Oliver
Samuel Edwards
Benjamin Church
Isaac White

were chose Assessors for the Year ensuing.

Voted that the Town proceed to the Choice of twelve Firewards for the Year ensuing and the Votes being Collected and sorted it appeared that the following Persons were chose Viz^{t}.

John Phillips Esqr:
John Hill Esqr:
Capt. Joseph Jackson
[363.] M^{r}. John Scollay
Maj^{r}: Nathl Thwing
Capt. Hopestill Foster
M^{r}. Royall Tyler
Capt. Thomas James Gruchy
M^{r}. Newman Greennough
M^{r}. Joseph Jackson Truckman

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Mr. John Rowe
Mr. William Cooper

Voted that this Meeting be and hereby adjourned to three o'Clock this afternoon.

Three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

John Gray. Surveyor of Hemp.
Messrs. Robert Ford
Clement Collins
John Grant
Isaac Vergoose
William Pain
Isaac White
William Nichols
Joseph Butler
Andrew Symmes
Onesyphirus Tilestone
Moses Eayres
Henry Alline
[In margin] Surveyors of Boards & Cs.
Messrs. David Spear
Isaac Fowle
Joseph Dyer
John Helyer
Peter Cotta
Edward Potter
Robert Treat
Edward Cowell
[363½.] John Hobbs
Samuel Treat
[In margin] Cullers of Staves & Cs.
Messrs. Holmes Simpson
John Aish
Abraham Rogers
David Scudder
[In margin] Hogreeves.
Messrs. Belcher Noyes
John Forsyth
Jacob Holyoke
Nathan Simpson
John Billings
Thomas Dawes
Thomas Wheeler
After Stoddard
Alexander Hill
Benjamin Fitch
Daniel Jones
Benjamin Harrod
[In margin] Scavingers.
Messrs. John Coverly . . . . . Sworn
Abijah Adams . . . . . Sworn
Joseph Gandall . . . . . Excused
Samuel Harris . . . . . Sworn
[In margin] Constables.

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Messrs. Story Dawes
Caleb Ray
William Moore
Benjamin Russell
Henry Evans
Nathaniel Wales
[In margin] Fence Viewers
Messrs. Thomas Hase
John Carter
Samuel Hastings
[In margin] Sealers of Leather.
Messrs. Nathaniel Gardner
Joseph Belknap
[In margin] Informers of Deer.
[364.] M^{r}. Joseph Curtis
[In margin] Hayward.
Surveyors of Highways. [In margin]
The Selectmen
Messrs. David Cutler
Thomas Foster
[In margin] Assaymasters.

The Selectmen's Report on the Account of M^{r}. John Fenno keeper of the Granary for the Year past as entred in his Book (and on file in the Town Clerk's Office) Read & Voted that the same be accepted and accordingly that M^{r}. Fenno be further accountable to the Town for 224½ Bushells of Corn ahd 12½ Bushells of Rye remaining unsold amounting to twenty two pounds fifteen shillings and eight pence three farthings, and also for the Sum of Three Hundred and fifty eight Pounds eleven shillings and five pence one farthing Cash, amounting in the whole to three hundred & eighty one pounds seven shillings and two pence exclusive of the Sum of of twenty six thirteen shillings and four pence for his Salary and Assistance as charged in said Account which is hereby allowed him.

Thomas Greene Esqr. Capt. Joseph Jackson, & M^{r}. John Scollay were chose purchasers of Grain for the Year ensuing. The said Committee are desired and impowred to give all needful directions to the keeper of the Granary respecting the Quantities of Grain to be sold, & settling the Price thereof from time to time as occasion may Require.

Messrs. Cornelius Thayer
John Deming
John Winslow, Hatter
Daniel Boyer
Samuel Austin
Samuel Dexter
Moses Peck
Joseph Waldo
Joseph Winslow
Samuel Downes
Daniel Eveleth
William Gray
[In margin] Clerks of the Market.

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[364½.] Nothing done thereon. Tythingmen. [In margin]

Voted that the Sum of Twenty pounds lawful money be allowed and paid out of the Treasury unto Capt. Isaac Dupee for his Services as Clerk fo Faneuil Hall Markett for the Year past.

Capt. Isaac Dupee. Clerk of Faneuil Hall Markett. [In margin]

Messrs.	Peter Barker	Excused
	Thomas Barker	Pay
Messrs.	Isaiah Barret	Sworn
	Joseph Shed	Sworn

[In margin] Constables.

Voted that the Sum of twelve pence on the pound be & hereby is allowed to be paid to such persons as shall be chose Collectors of Taxes for the Year ensuing for all such Sums as they shall Collect, provided they pay into the Town Treasury one half part of the whole Sum they are obliged to him within four months from the time they receive the Tax Books from the Assessors, and the other half part in three months after and also pay into the province and County Treasury one half part of the whole Sums they shall be obliged to pay them Respectively in seven months from the time they shall receive the Tax books from the Assessors, as aforesaid & the other half part in five months after, and in case either of said Collectors shall fail paying in manner as aforementioned, the Collector so failing shall not be intitled to the aforesaid Allowance of twelve pence on the Pound but wholly forfeit the same provided also that each of said Collectors give Bond with sufficient Surety's to the satisfaction of the Selectmen for the faithful discharge of their Duty in said Office, and complying with this Vote.

Messrs. John Ruddock
James Scutt
Thomas Downes junr.
Jonathan Payson

[In margin] Collectors of Taxes.

Voted that Mr. Tyng Mr. Oxenbridge Thacher & Thomas Greene [365.] Esqr. be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to revive all the By Laws of the Town now in force, and alter and correct the same as they shall think proper, they are also desired to prepare any other By Laws that they shall judge necessary for the better Regulation of the Town, and they are desired to report their doings thereon to the Town as soon as may be.

Voted that the Selectmen be and they hereby are desired to Examine the Powder belonging to the Town, and all such as they shall find damaged they are directed to cure or dispose of it.

Voted that the Assessors be and they hereby are impowred to make an Abatement of Taxes to the first day of April next and no longer, saving that they have liberty to sit the two last weeks in November next, to abate the Taxes of all such persons as shall appear to them to have dyed, or been out of Town, & could not have made Application to them before said first day of April.

Also Voted that the Assessors have liberty to sit in said two weeks in November to Abate the Taxes of all such persons as shall appear to them to have become Bankrupts between said first

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day of April, & said time of sitting, & which the Collectors have endeavored to have got in, but could not.

The Petition of several Bellringers of the Town praying that an Addition be made to their Allowance for ringing the Bells, Read and thereupon Voted that the Sum of forty shillings p Annum be allowed them in the whole for each time said Bells shall be rung.

The Petition of Hopestill Foster praying that the Taxes of William Pitman, Elias Delarue, & Peter Oliver who were taxed in the Year 1752 may be abated him for reasons therein mentioned, was read, and said Foster was heard thereupon, Voted that the Taxes of said persons amounting in the whole to eleven pounds five shillings & eleven pence be abated and the Selectmen are hereby directed to give said Foster a Draft for the same on the Town Treasury accordingly.

Voted that the matters and things that now remain [**365½.**] unfinished be referred over to the next General Town Meeting for Consideration, to be then Acted upon.

Voted Unanimously thanks of the Town be & hereby is given unto the Honble. Thomas Hubbard Esqr. the Moderator of this meeting, for transacting the Business thereof.

Then the meeting was Dismissed.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston legally qualifyed and warn'd in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Friday the sixteenth day of May A D 1755.

Prayer was made by the Rev^d^. M^r^. Andrew Eliot.

The Precept & Warrant for calling the Meeting Read.

Sundry Laws Read.

M^r^. Samuel Grant one of the Selectmen proposed in their Names to the Inhabitants Assembled to proceed to the Choice of one or more Persons to represent them in the Great and General Court or Assembly to be held at Boston upon Wednesday the twenty eighth Day of May current, and in order thereto to consider and ascertain the Number of Gentlemen to be elected, accordingly it was Voted to proceed to the Choice of four Representatives, and it was then declared that the Poll would be clos'd at twelve o'Clock.

The Votes being Collected, the Number of Voters were found to be 492 and upon sorting them it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chose Viz^t^.

Thomas Hubbard Esqr. . . .	373.
M^r^. John Tyng	367
James Bowdoin Esqr.	411
M^r^. William Cooper	259

[**366.**] The Election of Representatives being over & the same declared by the Selectmen.

The Inhabitants proceeded to bring in their Votes for a Moderator, and upon sorting 'em, it appeared that the honourable Thomas Hubbard Esqr. was chose by a great Majority.——

Sundry Petitions Read ——

The Town proceeded to take into Consideration the Article in

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the Warrant Viz^t. what Instructions shall be given to the Representatives relating to such Matters as may come under the Consideration of the General Court and after some Debate thereon Voted that.——

Richard Dana Esqr.
M^r. Samuel Grant
Thomas Greene Esq:
M^r. Royal Tyler &
M^r. Oxenbridge Thacher

be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to prepare a Draft of such Instructions as they shall judge necessary to be given to the Representatives for their Conduct relating to such Matters as may come under the Consideration of the General Court this Year and they are desired to report the same at the adjournment of this Meeting.

The Petition for paving Long Lane was considered and after some debate thereon, a Question was put, Whether any part of said Lane shall be pav'd at the Expence of the Town, upon the Abutters paying such a part for paving the remainder as the Selectmen shall determine, Voted in the Negative, and thereupon said Petition was dismis'd.

The Committee appointed the 12th. March last to Audit the Accompts of M^r. Treasurer Jeffries now Reported that they had attended that Service and found the same right cast'd & well vouch'd, in which he Charges himself with Sundry Fines Rents and other Incomes of the Town, as also with the Tax of £3000 committed to the Collectors all which amounts [**366½.**] (including the Ballance of old Accompt) to £7078,, 5,, 4,, And the said Treasurer discharges himself by sundry Abatements made the Collectors, by Drafts made by the Selectmen amounting £2177,, 2,,—1,,—½ and by Drafts made by the Overseers of the Poor which contain the Charges of the Almshouse & Workhouse amounting to £1454,, —16,,—9¼ &c. which we have inspected in a very particular manner by examining every particular Voucher produced by the Overseers for the amount of that Sum, and every other Branch of the public Charge all amounting to £4254,,—1,,—2,, ¾ by which it appears that when all the Taxes Rents & Incomes of the Town are in the ballance will be £2824,, —4,,—1¼ which the said Treasurer is further to Account for, as appears by the Tryal Ballance of said Account given in by said Committee and on File which Report and Accompt being read, Voted that the same be Accepted.

And Whereas it is represented by said Committee that there has been for several Years part small Sums of money due to the Town from Persons that are dead or become Bankrupts which have been bro't forward in the Treasurers Books for several Years, and that there is no prospect of ever getting any part of them, Therefore Voted that the Treasurer be and hereby is directed not to transferr such Accompts any farther but that he ballance the same.

The Town took into Consideration the Petition of Jacob Wendell Esqr. praying the Town would make him a Grant of so much Lands in the rear of his Lands near Fort hill as may be judged adequate to the Lands he has given the Town for widening

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the Street there, as in said Petition is sett forth, Voted the Selectmen and John Steele Esq: and Jonathan Williams be & they hereby are appointed a Committee to consider of this Petition and also of the Reports made by Committees heretofore appointed by the Town relating to the Disputes the Town have had with the said Jacob Wendell Esq: concerning the Lands &c^{a}. near the South Battery and Report to the Town the Circumstances thereof and what they judge proper to be done thereupon, at the annual Meeting it March next.

[367.] The Town considered the Petition of John Steele and Jeremiah Greene Esq^{rs}. for repairing the North and South Batteries, and after some Debate thereon, Voted that the Selectmen be and they hereby are directed and impowered to make such Repairs at the North & South Batteries as they shall judge necessary not exceeding the Sum of Four hundred Pounds in doing the same.

The Petition of sundry Inhabitants for paving the highway called Still house Square was Read & thereupon Voted, that the Sum of Twenty six Pounds thirteen shillings and four pence, be and hereby is granted towards paving said highway to be paid when the same is finish'd provided the same is pav'd from Bells Corner to Sigourney's Corner, & to the satisfaction of the Selectmen —— And it is to be understood that notwithstanding this Grant, the Town do not accept the same as a publick highway and that they will not be at any future Expence for repairing the same.

Voted a Grant of Four Thousand Pounds lawful money be rais'd by a Tax upon Polls & Estates within the Town of Boston for relief of the Poor and defreying other necessary Charges arising within the Town the Year ensuing.

Voted that the Sum of one hundred and twenty Pounds lawful money be allowed and paid unto M^{r}. Peleg Wiswall for his Salary as Master of the North Grammar School for the ensuing Year, the same to be paid him quarterly, at to commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the Sum of one hundred and twenty Pounds lawful money be allowed and paid unto M^{r}. John Lovell for his Salary as Master of the South Grammar School for the ensuing Year the same to be paid him quarterly, and to commence at the expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the Sum of one hundred Pounds lawful money be allowed and paid unto M^{r}. Abia Holbrook for his Salary as Master of the writing School in the Common the ensuing Year to be paid him Quarterly, & to commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

[367½.] Voted that the Sum of one hundred Pounds lawful money be allowed and paid unto M^{r}. Zachariah Hicks for his Salary as Master of the North writing School the ensuing Year to be paid him Quarterly, and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the Sum of Eighty Pounds Lawful money be allowed and paid unto M^{r}. Samuel Holyoke Master of the Writing School in Queen Street the ensuing Year to be paid him Quarterly & to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

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Voted that the Sum of Sixty Pounds lawful money be allowed and paid to M^r^. Nathaniel Gardner for his Salary as Usher of the South Grammar School the ensuing Year to be paid him Quarterly, and to commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the Sum of Eighty Pounds lawful money be allowed and paid unto M^r^. John Procter jun^r^. for his Salary as one of the Masters of the Writing School in Queen street the ensuing Year to be paid him Quarterly and to commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the Sum of one hundred Pounds lawful money be allowed to M^r^. David Jeffries for his Services as Treasurer of the Town the Year past and for all Expences in that Office.

Voted that the Committee appointed to draw up Instructions for the Representatives particularly Urge it upon them to get such part of the Excise Act pass'd the General Court the 21st. of December last as relates to the private Consumption of Liquors & C^a^. repealed, and also that they use their Utmost Endeavours that a General Valuation of rateable Estates throughout the Province may be taken this Year.

Voted that is the Opinion of the Town that if the Inhabitants will give in to the Assessors a Valuation of their rateable Estates that so the same may be laid before the General Court it may be a means of their obtaining releif as to their paying [**368.**] so large a proportion (as they now do) of the Publick Taxes, Also Voted that the Inhabitants be, and they hereby are desired to give in to the Assessors such a Valuation according.

Voted that this Meeting be adjourn'd to Monday the 26th. inst^t^. at 3 o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Monday 26 of May 3 o'Clock in the Afternoon the Inhabitants mett according to their Adjournment.

The Selectmen appointed a Committee the 15th. May last to visit the Schools now made the following Report Viz^t^.

To the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston in Town Meeting Assembled May 16: 1755.

Pursuant to a Vote of the Town of Boston at their Meeting the 15th. of May last desiring the Selectmen to Visit the publick Schools, and Invite such Gentlemen to accompany them therein as they shall think proper do now Report,

That on the 5th. of July last we attended that Service accompanied by the following Gentleman Viz^t^.

The Hon: Josiah Willard Esqr.
Richard Bill Esqr.
Joseph Pyncheon Esqr.
John Erving Esqr.
The Gent^n^. the Representatives
of this Town.
The Rev^d^. Dr Sewall
M^r^. Pemberton
M^r^. Mather
M^r^. Eliot
M^r^. Checkley

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The Gentlemen the Overseers
of the Poor
Thomas Hancock Esqr.
John Steele Esqr.
M^{r}. David Jeffries
and found that in the South Grammar School there was 120 Scholars, in the South Writing School 220 Scholars, in the Writing School in Queen Street 180 Scholars, in the North Grammar School 40 Scholars, and in the North writing School 240 Scholars, all in very good Order.

SAMUEL GRANT
THOMAS HILL
JOSHUA HENSHAW
JOS: JACKSON
THOMAS CUSHING
SAMUEL HEWES
JOHN SCOLLAY
} Selectmen of Boston.

[368½.] Read and Accepted and Voted that the Gentlemen the Selectmen be and they hereby are desired to Visit the Schools this present Year, and Invite such Gentlemen to accompany them as they shall think proper.

Voted that John Wheelwright Esqr. Jeremiah Greene Esquire Stephen Greenleaf Esqr. Mr John Ruddock and M^{r}. John Winslow be and hereby are appointed a Committee to Audit the Accompts of M^{r}. Treasurer Jeffries, and also the Accompts of the Overseers of the Poor, and the said Committee are hereby directed and impowred to inspect every particular Accompt of the moneys expended for the use of the Almshouse, and they are desired to make report thereon as soon as they have done the same.

The Town considered of the Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. how farr Olivers Dock shall be fill'd up and thereupon Voted that the Selectmen be and they hereby are desired to fill up said Dock so farr, and in such a manner as they shall think best.

It being proposed that some Method may be taken to supply the Town with Powder, the Act of the Province concerning it was Read, and it was judged by the Town that the Law referrs it to the Selectmem to supply the Town, & so nothing was done upon it.

The Petition of sundry Inhabitants for paving a Street near the North Meeting House leading into Ship street was read, & thereupon It was Voted that the Sum of Thirteen Pounds six shillings and eight pence lawful money be allowed & is hereby granted for paving the South side of said Street, the same to be paid when it is finished, provided the Abutters pay the whole Cost of paving the remainder, and it be done to the Satisfaction of the Selectmen.

A Motion was made and seconded, that the Town would reconsider the Vote pass'd the 16: instant relating to the paving Long Lane and after some debate thereon a Question was put whether the Town would reconsider said Vote and the [369.] Moderator declared that he judged it pass'd in the Affirmative, whereupon a Poll was demanded, but before the same was decided, the Petitioners moved that may have liberty to withdraw their

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motion for reconsidering which was granted, and the Town proceeded no further.

The Committee appointed the 16th. instt. to prepare Instructions for the Representatives of this Town reported a Draft they had made which was in the words following Vizt.

To the honble. Thomas Hubbard Esqr. Mr. John Tyng James Bowdoin Esqr. and Mr. William Cooper

Gentlemen

Although our Choice of you to represent this Town of Boston in the next General Assembly of this Province be such a Proof of our Confidence in your Abilities prudence & integrity, that even any Instructions, whatsoever, may by some Persons, be tho't needless or impertinent, yet as it is our undoubted right ever to give our Representatives particular Instructions for their Conduct, in the General Assembly, and very expedient too touching such Points especially as most nearly concern the natural rights & liberties of the People in general, as well as the Interest of this Town in particular, so far at least as is Consistent with the General Good of the community, and inasmuch as the famous Exeise Act made here, the last Winter (which was apprehended by us to be so grevious & burdensome that we with one Consent and as soon as possible made our Application to our most gracious Sovereign for his royal disallowance thereof) hath not yet been presented to his Majesty (as we know of) and therefore, doth and will abide in full force untill his disallowance thereof be duly Signified, or it be repealed here; We your Constituants do therefore in justice to ourselves, as well as in Testimony of our settled & hearty Aversions to all Attacks and Incroachments upon our natural Rights think it very expedient and even necessary at this time to instruct you Gentn., And we do accordingly hereby instruct and give it you in special Charge

1. That you do exert yourselves to the utmost of yonr Abilities in all suitable ways to procure a repeal of that Act, so far as it concerns the Excise upon the private Cousumption of Wine Spirits &C: in private Families as soon as possible; and likewise to prevent any such like Act, or any Act whatsoever being made in destruction or derogation of our natural rights & liberties, if any such Attempt should be again made either in the House of Representatives (where the other originated and was so warmly carried on to effect) or by either of the branches of the Legislature.

[369½.] 2. That you likewise earnestly endeavour to procure an Act to be made for the exclusion of all Farmers of Excises and their Deputies and all secret or open contractors therefor from a seat in either House of the General Assembly for the future.

3. And for as much as the Inhabitants of this Town for a long time past have been and still are laboring and groaning under a burden of Taxes, far beyound our equal proportion with the other Inhabitants of this Province, and which are now become insupportable even to every rank of Men amongst us, we do therefore recommend to you and expect, that you also do your utmost to procure a just Valuation of all the rateable Estates within this Province to be made this Year, that we may no longer be taxed so

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farr beyound our just proportion towards defreying the Charges of the Government, as now are and have been for these many Years past.

4. As to all other matters which may come under Consideration in the Approaching Assembly we leave them at present to your prudence & discretion, not doubting of your Fidelity to us your Constituents and to the publick, but would have you ever keep in your mind, that in Case any new attempt should be made against our liberties & Charter-Privileges in this ensuing Year it is expected by us, that you not only seasonably and vigorously oppose it, but also give us your Constituents timely notice thereof that you may receive our further Special Instructions thereupon, if it shou'd be thought expedient. And the same being read & considered of. Voted unanimously that the same be Accepted, and the Gentlemen the Representatives are desired to govern themselves according to said Instructions and the Town Clerk is hereby directed to give a fair Copy thereof to each of them.

The Committee appointed the 14th. of May AD 1751 Vizt. Mr. Jonathan Williams Mr. Thomas Greene and Mr. Nathl Thwing to proscute any persons that have made Incroachments on the Towns Lands near to or upon Fort hill, now Reported that by virtue of the power to them given they had used their utmost endeavours to accommodate & settle with Middlecott Cooke Esqr. and others relating to the Encroachments made on the Towns Land near Fort hill in the Occupation of [370.] Mr. Alexander Hunt, but not being able to accommodate the same they brought forward an Action against said Hunt, which after divers continuances was fully heard at the Superiour Court in August last when the Town recovered judgment for the possession of a strip of Land next adjoining to Mr. Joseph Hubbard's Land, as will fully appear by said Judgment, which Strip of Land the Gentlemen the Selectmen of the Town of Boston have received possession in behalf of said Town. which being read Voted that the same be accepted and that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby is given to said Committee for the great Pains they have taken in this Affair.

Voted that the Thanks of the Town be & hereby is given to the Honble. Thomas Hubbard Esqr. the Moderator of this Meeting for transacting the Business thereof.

The Meeting was Dismiss'd.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston legally qualify'd and warned in Public Town Meeting assembled at Faneuil Hall on Friday the eighteenth day of July AD 1755.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting Read.

John Phillips Esq; chose Moderator by a handy Vote,

The Town proceeded to take into Consideration the Article in the Warrant Vizt. to determine whether the Town will make any Addition to the South Battery for the better Defence of it, besides the Repairs voted in May last, and what may be necessary for effecting the same, and after some Debate thereon, It was moved and seconded that the following Question may be put, whether any

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Addition shall be made to the South Battery, It was Voted in the Negative by a very great Majority.

Then the Meeting was Dismiss'd

[370½.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston legally qualify'd & warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Wednesday the 4 day of February AD 1756.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting Read.

John Phillips Esqr. chose Moderator by a handy Vote.

The Town proceeded to take into Consideration the Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. whether the Town will immediately proceed to raise by a Lottery orLotteries the sum of Three Thousand Pounds lawful money for paving Boston Neck pursuant to the Power granted by an Act of the Great and General Court lately pass'd for that purpose, and the Act of the Province relating to it being read. And some Debate thereon, the following Question was put Viz^{t}. whether it be the Minds of the Town that the Managers who are by said Act appointed to carry on said Lottery or Lotteries shall proceed as soon as they conveniently can, and in such a Method as they shall think proper to raise the aforesaid Sum of Three thousand Pounds lawful money in order to pave the Neck according to the Directions of said Act, the same to be paved of such a Wedth and in such manner as the Selectmen for the time being shall judge best, and also do such other Repairs as shall be found necessary. And it was voted in the Affirmative by a great Majority.

The Town then proceeded to consider, the other Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. whether the Town will now make Application to the General Court that a General Account and valuation of all Polls & rateable Estates throughout the Province may be taken this Year, and after some debate thereon, It was voted unanimously that the Town will make Application accordingly, and then voted that a Committee be chose to prepare a Draft of a Petition to the General Court for that purpose, Voted that the said Committee consist of 5 Persons, Voted that Benjamin Prat Esqr. Samuel Welles Esqr. Thos. [371.] Greene Esq: M^{r}. Thomas Cushing and Richard Dana Esq; be the Committee and they are desired to make Report of their Draft to the Town at the Adjournment of this Meeting on Wednesday the 11th. ins^{t}. at 3 o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Voted that this Meeting be adjourn'd to Wednesday the 11th instant at 3 o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Wednesday February 11th. 1756 3 o'Clock P.M. the Inhabitants mett according to their Adjournment.

The Committee appointed the 4th. ins^{t}. to prepare a Draft of a Petition to the General Court now reported that they had prepared a Draft which was read as in the Words following. Viz^{t}.

To his Excellency William Shirley Esquire Captain General and Governour in Chief, the honourable the Council and House of Representatives in General Court Assembled February 11: 1756.

The Inhabitants of Boston in Town Meeting legally convened. Humbly Shew

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That their Difficulties are become so great and pressing that they cannot forbear repeating their Greviances, which they humbly beg leave to lay before your Excellency and Honours, that as their Ability is exceedingly and apparently lessned their Share of the Province Charge (which is now nearly the same as in their most flourishing State) may be made proportionable to their present diminish'd & decayed Circumstances.

That their Condition and Ability are thus weakned will abundantly appear by comparing their past, & present State & Bussiness heretofore there were near four thousand Polls who paid Taxes, now there are but few more than two thousand.

But a short time since the Town often had 30 or 40 Vessells at a time on the Stocks, mostly large, now there are but six Vessells of all sorts agreed for.

Not many Years since they had the whole Business [371½.] of Distilling Molosses and refining Sugar with which they supply'd the Inhabitants of this Province, Newfoundland Nova Scotia, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, & Providence Plantations, Connecticutt, New York, the Jerseys, Maryland Virginnia, North and South Carolina, in return for which they had Wheat, Flower, Peas, Pork, Beef, Fish, Train Oyl, Pitch, Tarr, Turpentine, Furrs, Hides, Skins Tallow & many other valuable Commodities, & frequently especially from Nova Scotia, & Newfoundland, Bills of Exchange on our Mother Country, this necessarily employed a great number of Vessells & Sailors to Import the Molasses, & Raw Sugar, & export their produce when Manufactored, as also what we barter'd them away for abroad as well as brough among us and found Bussiness for a great Number Tradesmen as Coopers, Bakers, Hatters, Tanners, Tallow Chandlers Truckmen, and Porters, all which having full employ chearfully paid their part of the Taxes, whereas now we are wholly deprived of supplying the most of the neighbouring Governments, there being many Distilling or Sugar Houses in Rhode Island, New York, and Pensylvania to the Southward, as well as in Nova Scotia to the Northward, besides the Great number in other Towns of this Province Viz^t. Plymouth, Salem, Newbury, Haverhill, Marblehead, Charlestown Watertown Medford & Nantuckett, insomuch that the Town of Boston now does not half supply the home Consumption.

Within a little more than twenty Years the Inhabitants of this Town imported and almost entirely supply'd not only this Province but all the other Inhabitants of the several Governments in New England with the Manufactures and Goods of our Mother Country now they have almost wholly lost the supply of Rhode Island Government, and in a great measure that of Connecticutt and New Hampshire, and not so only but several of our considerable Shops & whole Sale Traders are now supply'd by those very Merchants in other Towns of this Province whom they or their Fathers or Massters largely or almost wholly supply'd with the same, Sort of Goods, but a few Years since.

And within a very Short time almost [372.] All our victuallers or Butchers living in the Town who were thirty or forty in Number, and kill'd not long since all the large Meat & much the Greatest

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part of the small, are now reduced to three or four who all put together, don't kill so much as one who lives out of the Town, this has almost broke up our Tanners Curriers & Shoemakers and altered the Case of the Town from supplying the Country, with Leather, and a great part of their Shoes to be supply'd very largely with both, from the Country.

These Things have of Course and almost unavoidably brought a great number of our Inhabitants of the lower sort to great Poverty and Indigence, insomuch that the Charge of our Poor has increased from about one Thousand or Fifteen hundred Pounds a Year old tenor to ten or twelve Thousand, besides the Collections for them in the several Churches & other Charitable Meetings and Societys which are thought by the most knowing to amount to as much more, which great excesive Charges has also brought on another growing & heavy loss to the Town, that of the removal of several of our Men, wealthy inhabitants, it being a known & settled Point that about a fifth part of what they pay for Taxes in Boston will discharge them in any other Town, it must be a strong temptation to remove a few miles out of this Town if a man can save five hundred or a thousand Pounds a Year by it.

And while this Town has in these visible ways been sinking and infeabled many parts of the said Province have flourished & increased apparently, the Countys of Essex Middlesex & Worcester, have done so in their Husbandry, and the Towns of Plymouth, Sherburne or Nantucket, Salem, Marblehead, Newbury, York, and Falmouth in Casco Bay, have also in their Trade & Commerce both foreign & domestick; these things which are easy to be verified and put beyond all Dispute, point out, and as we humbly apprehend justice seems to require, that a new Valuation of Estates be made throughout the Province, and althô; this Town have not given in a List or Valuation of their Estates heretofore, yet it appears now so necessary that they have unanimously agreed & voted to do it, and they do with the same unanimity humbly request your Excellency & Honours (as soon as may be) to order a Valuation to be made of all the rateable Estates in the Province, upon which we hope the Inhabitants of Boston will with all Chearfullness exert themselves to pay what shall be found their just Share & Proportion [372½.] And thereupon it was unanimonsly Voted that the same be accepted and that the Town Clerk prepare a fair Copy of said Petition and that the Selectmen in the Name of the Town Sign the same and preferr it to the General Court accordingly.

Voted that the Thanks of the Town be & they hereby are given to the Committee for the Pains they have took in preparing the Draft aforesaid.

Voted that Joshua Winslow Esqr. & Thomas Greene Esq. } Merchants.

John Hill Esq —	Distiller & Sugar baker
Benj^{a}: Hallowell Esqr. . .	Shipwright
Nathl. Thwing Esqr. . . .	Baker
M^{r}. Samuel Bass	Tanner
M^{r}. John Breck	Cooper
M^{r}. Joseph Belknap . . .	Leather dresser.

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Be & they hereby are appointed a Committee to make the most Exact & particular Enquiry what Bussiness was done and carry'd on by Persons of their respective Occupations in this Town in the Year 1746, or thereabouts and also in what proportion the same has been since declining to this time, and they are desired to reduce the same to writing, and return such Accompts thereof to the Selectmen, they to deliver the same to the Gentlemen the Representatives of the Town who are to make such use thereof as the shall judge necessary in the Application the Town have made to the General Court for taking a Valuation this Year of all Polls & rateable Estates throughout the Province.

Voted that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby is given unto John Phillips Esq: the Moderator of this Meeting for transacting the Business thereof.

Then the Meeting was Dismiss'd.

[373.] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualifyed and legally Warned in Publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Monday the eighth day of March AD 1756.

Prayer was made by the Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Samuel Cooper.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting Read,

Sundry Laws Read.

John Phillips Esqr. was unanimously Choose Moderator by a written Vote, and he took the Oath respecting his paying & receiving Bills of Credit of the Governments of Connecticut, New Hampshire and Rhode Island, as required by the Act of this Province.

Ezekiel Goldthwait was chose Town Clerk for the Year ensuing, and having taken the Oath required by the Act of the 26th. Year of His present Majesty's Reign respecting the paying and receiving Bills of Credit of the other Governments, took the Oath of Office, which were administred to him by John Phillips Esqr.

The Town proceeded to the Choice of Seven Selectmen and the Votes being brought in and Sorted it appeared that,

M^{r}. Samuel Grant
M^{r}. Thomas Hill
Joshua Henshaw Esqr.
Capt. Joseph Jackson
M^{r}. Thomas Cushing
Capt. Samuel Hewes
M^{r}. John Scollay,

were chose, and they were accordingly Sworn respecting to their receiving and paying Bills of Credit of the neighbourinf Governments.

The Honble. Jacob Wendell Esqr.
Col^{o}. John Hill
Daniel Henchman Esqr.
M^{r}. Edward Bromfield
[373½.] The Honble. Andrew Oliver Esqr.
John Phillips Esqr.
M^{r}. Isaac Walker
Capt. Ebenezer Storer

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Mr. John Barret
Capt. Nathl. Greenwood
Mr. Royal Tyler
Mr. Thomas Flucker

were Chose Overseers of the Poor for the Year ensuing.

Voted that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby is given unto the Honble. Thomas Hubbard Esqr. and Mr. Joseph Sherburne for the good services they have done in the Office of Overseers of the Poor for several Years past.

The Town proceeded to take into Consideration the Petition of Mr. John Hill and Samuel Wentworth Esquires that a further Term may be granted them of the Town's Lands on the Neck already Leased to them, and after some Debate thereon, the said Hill & Wentworth being heard in support of their Petition, It was mov'd and seconded that said Petition be Dismissed, and the Question being put, It was Voted that said Petition be dismissed accordingly.

The Petition of Francis Wells Esqr. of Cambridge in the County of Middlesex setting forth that for thirty Years past he chearfully paid large Taxes towards defreying the Charges of the Town, and was always willing to bear his part of the Burthens of the Town whilst he continued amongst them and was able so to do; But it is so for the last four Years of the Petitioner's residence in the Town he met with very Considerable Losses in his Trade and Bussiness, which reduced him greatly in his Circumstances and rendered him unable to discharge the Taxes laid on him, but the Petitioner neglected applying to the Assessors for abatement of his Taxes on Account of his great and heavy Losses, which if he had done he is well satisfied they would have taken off more than the Sum now due from him, but for his negligence he must [**374.**] Unavoidably be thrown into a Cold and filthy Prison, unless the Town according to their usual kindness and Charity will be pleased to Release him from the demand the Collector hath against him for the remainder of his Taxes being the Sum of £28,, 16,, 10, and the Petitioner humbly Conceives the Town will not take any Advantage of his Latches in omitting to apply to the Assessors in Season when they Consider his present difficult and distressed Circumstances; He therefore most humbly prays that the Town would be pleased to give Orders to the Assessors to abate him the said Sum of £28,, 16,, 10, the time limited by the Town for application being elapsed notwithstanding or that he may have such Relief afforded him in the Premisses as the Town in their great goodness see meet. — And after some Debate thereon, Voted that the same be dismissed.

Voted that any Person chosen in the Office of a Constb. for the Year ensuing be excused from serving in that Office upon his paying to the Town Treasury the Sum of Four Pounds Lawful Money.

Messrs. Joseph Rhodes	Pay
Samuel Simpson	Excused
Henry Atkins jnr.	
Benjamin Loring	Excused
Thomas Dawes jnr.	Excused
Samuel Osborne	Paid in 1754.

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Peter Barbour	Sworn
Sam[l]. Hardcastle	Pay
Tho[s]. Fayerweather	Pay
Moses Peck	Excused
John Pattin	Sworn
John Coverley	Sworn

were Chosen Constables for the Year ensuing

The Town proceeded to bring in their Votes for a Town Treasurer, and they being sorted it appeared that M[r]. David Jeffries was unanimously chose into that Office, and he accordingly took the Oath respecting his receiving and paying Bills of the other Goverments as required by Law, and then was sworn to the faithful discharge of his Duty in that Office.

[374½.] The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for a County Treasurer, and they being Collected were Sealed up by Constable Patten to be by him kept and Returned into the Court of General Sessions of the Peace in April next.

The Freeholders brought in their Votes for a Register of Deeds and Conveyances for the County of Suffolk, & they were Sealed up by Constable Patten to be by him kept & returned into the Court of General Sessions of the Peace in April next.

Colonel John Hill
John Phillips Esq[r].
Cap[t]. Joseph Jackson
M[r]. John Scollay
Colonel Nathaniel Thwing, Excus'd
M[r]. Royal Tyler
Cap[t]. Hopestill Foster
M[r]. John Rowe
Cap[t]. Newman Greenough
M[r]. William Cooper
M[r]. Joseph Jackson
Nath[l]. Wheelwright Esq[r].
Cap[t]. Thomas Savage

were chose Firewards for the Year ensuing.

Mess[rs].	Samuel Phillips	Paid in 1753
	Samuel Hewes jun[r].	Excus'd
	John Cunningham	Excus'd
	Edward Tyng	Excus'd
	Aggustus Hale	Sworn
	John Wells	Sworn

were chose Constables for the Year ensuing.

Mess.[rs]	John Joy	Excus'd
	Barnabas Clarke	Excus'd
	Nath[l]. Ridgway	Excus'd
	Obadiah Low	Excus'd

were chose Constables for the Year Ensuing.

[375.] M[r]. John Gray.
was chose Surveyor of Hemp for the Year ensuing.

Mess[rs]. Robert Ford
Clement Collins
Isaac White

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William Nichols
William Welch
John Grant
Isaac Vergoose
Andrew Symmes
Henry Allen
William Paine
Moses Eayres
Joseph Butler Excus'd
Samuel Warden

were chose Surveyors of Boards for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Samuel Treat
Joseph Dyer
Edward Potter
Isaac Towle
David Spear
Benj^a^. Ballard
John Hobbs
Edward Cowell
Robert Treat
John Helyer

were chose Cullers of Staves for the ensuing Year.

Messrs. Thomas Coverley
Nathaniel Bird
Samuel Smith
Ambrose Vincent

were chose Hogreeves for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Belcher Noyes
John Forsyth
John Lee
John Leverett
[375½.] Alex^r^. Sears
William Blair Townsend
Benjamin Davis
Benjamin Fitch
Daniel Jones
Joseph Candish
John White
Aftar Stoddard

were chose Scavingers for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Story Dawes
Caleb Ray
Thomas Crafts
Benj^a^. Russell
Onesiphorus Tilestone
Francis Warden

were chose Fence Viewers for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Joseph Carter
Thomas Hase
Samuel Hastings

were chose Sealers of Leather for the Year ensuing.

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Messrs. Joseph Belknap
Nathl. Gardner
were chose Informers of Deer for the Year ensuing.
M^{r}. Joseph Curtis
was chose Hayward for the Year ensuing.
Selectmen, Surveyors of Highways.
Messrs. David Cutler
Thomas Foster
were chose Assay Masters for the Year ensuing.
Messrs. William Gray
Corn^{l}. Thayer
Samuel Downe
[376.] John Deming
John Winslow
Daniel Bowyer
Samuel Austin
Samuel Dexter
Moses Peck
Joseph Waldo
John Winslow
Daniel Eveleth
were chose Clerks of the Market for the Year ensuing.
Messrs. Nathaniel Barber
William Fairfield
Peter Oliver
John Kneeland
Samuel Edwards
Benj^{a}. Church
Isaac White
were chose Assessors for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. David Greenleaf	Sworn
Michael Burn	Sworn
Henry Snow	Excus'd
Andrew Boardman	Excus'd

were chose Constables for the Year ensuing.
Capt. Isaac Dupee
was chose Clerk of Faneuil Hall Market for the Year ensuing.

Voted that the Sum of Twenty Pounds be allow'd and paid out of the Town Treasury unto Capt. Isaac Dupee for his Service as Clerk of Faneuil Hall Market the Year past.

Voted that no person shall now be chose for a Collector of Taxes who has heretofore served in that Office that cannot produce Receipts in full from the several Treasurers whom he was obliged to pay for the Year 1754.

[376½.] Voted that the Sum of twelve pence on the Pound be and hereby allowed to be paid to such Persons as shall be chose Collectors of Taxes for the Year ensuing, for all such Sums as they shall Collect, provided they pay into the Town Treasury one half part of the whole Sum they are obliged to pay him within four Months from the time they receive the Taxbooks from the Assessors, and the other half part in three Months after, and also pay into the Province and County Treasuries, one half part of the whole Sums

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they shall be obliged to pay them respectively in seven Months from the time they shall receive the Taxbooks from the Assessors as aforesaid, and the other half part in five Months after, and in case either of said Collectors shall fail paying in manner aforesaid, the Collector so failing shall not be Entitled to the aforesaid Allowance of twelve pence on the Pound, but wholly forfeit the same provided also that each of said Collectors give Bond with sufficient Sureties to the satisfaction of the Selectmen for the faithful discharge of thier Duty in said Office, and complying with this Vote.

Messrs. John Ruddock
Jon^{a}. Payson
James Scutt
Samuel Adams

Collectors [In margin.]

Messrs.	Edward Gray jun^{r}.	Sworn
	Barth^{o}. Rand	Excus'd
	Thos. Barton Simpkins	Excus'd
Messrs.	Isaac Bates	Sworn
	Joseph Miller	Excus'd
	Richard Hunniwell	Sworn
	Benjamin Adams	Excus'd
	David Gleason	Sworn

were chose Constables for the Year ensuing.

The Selectmen's Report on the Account of M^{r}. John Fenno keeper of the Granary, for the Year past, as Entr'd in his Book (and on File in the Town Clerk's Office). Read and Voted that the same be accepted, and accordingly [377.] that M^{r}. Fenno be further Accountable to the Town for 120 Bushels of Rye, remaining unsold, and also for 60 Bushels of Corn unsold, amounting to Twenty seven Pounds eight shillings, and also for the Sum of Four hundred and forty two Pounds & six pence exclusive of the Sum of Twenty six Pounds thirteen shillings and four pence for his Salary and Assistance as Charged in said Account, which is hereby allowed him.

Thomas Greene Esqr. Capt. Joseph Jackson and M^{r}. John Scollay were chose Purchasers of Grain for the Year ensuing, the said Committee are desired and impowred to give all needful directions to the keeper of the Grainary respecting the Quantities of Grain to be Sold, and setting the Price thereof from time to time as occasion may require.

Voted that the Assessors be and they hereby are impowred to Sit to the first day of May next and no longer, for making an Abatement of the Taxes of such Persons as they shall judge reasonable, saving that they have liberty to sit the two last Weeks in November next, to abate the Taxes of all such Persons, as shall appear to them to have dy'd, or been out of Town, and could not have made Application to them before said first Day of May.

Also Voted that the Assessors in said two Weeks in November may if they see cause, abate the Taxes of all such Persons as shall then appear to them to have become Bankrupts between said first of May & said time of Sitting, and which the Collectors shall have endeavor'd to have got, but could not.

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Tythingmen Nothing done thereon.

The Petition of sundry Inhabitants setting forth that inasmuch as 'tis thought necessary and of advantage to the Town in general, and to the Southerly part thereof in particular, that the Bell belonging to the Meeting House of the Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Byles be rung at five o'Clock in the Morning; they the Subscribers therefore prayed that the same might be [**377½.**] Accordingly Rung, and that the Expence thereof be paid by the Inhabitants, as has been accostomed for the ringing of the other Bells in the Town, which being Read Voted that the same be Dismiss'd.

Voted that the Selectmen be, and they hereby are Impowred to direct and order what Bells in the Town shall be rung and at what hours.

The Town took into Consideration the Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. "whether any more effectual Method than is always prescribed by Law can be taken, for promoting a more general Reformation of Manners."
and thereupon Voted that

The Honble. Judge Sewall
The Honble. Thos. Hubbard Esqr.
Abiel Walley Esqr.
John Phillips Esqr. &
M^{r}. Willm. Cooper,

be and they hereby are Appointed a Committee upon this Affair, and they are desired in the most particular manner to Consider of the same, and Report to the Town at their Meeting in May next, what Methods they shall judge best to be taken for a more general Reformation of Manners.

Voted that all Matters and Things that were to be transacted this Meeting, & remain unfinished, be and hereby are Referr'd over to the Town Meeting in May next, to be then Considered of and Acted upon.

Voted that the Thanks of the Town be & hereby is given to John Phillips Esqr. the Moderator of this Meeting for transacting and dispatching the Business thereof.

Then the Meeting was Dismiss'd.

[**378.**] At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston legally qualifyed and warned in Publick Town Meetiug Assembled at Faneuil Hall on Tuesday the eleventh day of May AD 1756.

Prayer was made by the Rev^{d}. M^{r}. Saml. Checkley jun^{r}.

The Precept & Warrant for calling the Meeting Read.

Sundry Laws Read.

M^{r}. Samuel Grant one of the Selectmen propos'd in their Name to the Inhabitants assembled to Proceed to the Choice of one or more Persons to Represent them in the Great & General Court or Assembly to be held at Boston upon Wednesday the 26th. of May current, and in order thereto to consider & ascertain the Number of Gentleman to be Elected, accordingly. It was Voted to proceed to the Choice of four Representatives, and it was then declared that the Poll will be clos'd at twelve o'Clock.

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The Votes being Collected, the Number of Voters were found to be 533 and upon Sorting 'em it appeared that the following Gentlemen were chose Viz^t.

	Votes.
Samuel Welles Esqr.	301
Thomas Hubbard	362
M^r. John Tyng	347
M^r. Thomas Flucker	459.

The Election of Representatives being over, and the same being declar'd by the Selectmen,

The Inhabitants proceeded to bring in their Votes for a Moderator, and upon Sorting them it appeared that the Honble. Thomas Hubbard Esqr. was Choose.

The Petition of Samuel Wentworth Esqr. setting forth that he is a great Sufferer by a Lease he has of the Town's Lands on the Westerly side of Boston Neck, not only from the [378½.] Unexpected Costs he has been at for the Compleating a Sea Wall Buildings and Fences, but more particularly from the Effects of a late Storm, in which said Sea Wall has sustained very great Damage, the Tempest having made several Breaches in the most exposed parts, and in general so weakned and reduced the Bank, that thô repairing it will be attended with an Addition Expence of near half the first Cost.

Wherefore he humbly prayed that the Town would so far sustain the Memorial as to chuse a suitable Committee to inspect the Premisses, and make such Allowances as shall appear just and reasonable, reporting the same to the Town at their then next Meeting, or that the Town would fall into any Method for the Relief of their Memorialist that shall Result from their Consideration, And their Petitioner as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

SAMUEL WENTWORTH.

which being Read and after a short Debate Voted that the same be Dismiss'd.

John Downe was chose Constable.

Voted that the Meeting be Adjourn'd to 3 o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Three o'Clock in the Afternoon the Town meet according to Adjournment.

Voted a Grant of Three Thousand five hundred Pounds Lawful money be rais'd by a Tax upon Polls & Estates within the Town of Boston, for relief of the Poor & defreying other necessary Charges arising within the Town the Year ensuing.

Samuel Wentworth Esqr. mov'd that the Town would be pleas'd to Consider the Vote pass'd in the forenoon on his Petition, and after some Debate thereon, a Question was put, whether said Vote shall be Reconsidered, and it pass'd in the Negative;

The Town proceeded to Consider what Method is best to be taken for the Revisal of the several By Laws [379.] Now in force, and what Alterations are necessary to be made therein, and thereupon Voted that the Selectmen be and they hereby are desired to employ some Persons learned in the Law to revise and alter said By Laws in such Manner as they shall judge most beneficial

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to the Town, and also prepare the Draft of a By Law to prevent the frequent firing of Chimneys, and Report the whole that shall be done hereupon so soon as may be; And the Selectmen are impowred to allow and pay such Persons as they shall Employ in this Affair what they shall judge reasonable for their Service.

Upon a Motion made and Seconded it was unanimously Voted that the Thanks of the Town be & hereby is given to James Bowdoin Esqr. for the good Services he has done the Town as their Representative for several Years past.

Also unanimously Voted that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby is given unto M^{r}. William Cooper for the good Services he has done the Town as their Representative the Year past.

The Honble. Thomas Hubbard Esqr. & M^{r}. Ja^{s}. Pitts Overseers of the Poor in the room of Daniel Henchman Esqr. & M^{r}. Edward Bromfield who were chose in March last, but decline Serving in that Office, and said Hubbard & Pitts being present pray'd the Town to excuse them as their Bussiness will not permit them to Serve; Voted that they be Excus'd accord^{y}

Whereupon, M^{r}. John Tudor &
M^{r}. William Phillips
were chose in their Room and Accepted.

The Article in the Warrant Viz^{t}. what Application may be necessary to be made to the General Court for the better Securing the Powder House in the Common came under Consideration, and it is thereupon Voted that the Gentlemen the Representatives of the Town be and they hereby are desir'd to Apply to the General Court at their next Sessions, that they wou'd take effectual Care, that said Powder House may be better Secured, than it now is.

[379½.] Voted that the Sum of one Hundred & Twenty Pounds Lawful money be allowed and paid unto M^{r}. Peleg Wiswall for his Salary as Master of the North Grammar School for the ensuing Year, the same to be paid to him quarterly and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the Sum of One hundred & twenty Pounds Lawfull money be allowed and paid unto M^{r}. John Lovell for his Salary as Master of the South Grammar School for the ensuing Year, the same to be paid him quarterly, & to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the Sum of One Hundred Pounds Lawful money be allowed and paid unto M^{r}. Abia Holbrook for his Salary as Master of the Writing School in the Common the ensuing year to be paid him Quarterly, and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the Sum of One hundred Pounds Lawful money be allowed and paid unto M^{r}. Zach^{h}. Hicks for his Salary as Master of the North Writing School the ensuing Year to be paid him Quarterly, and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the Sum of Eighty Pounds be allow'd and paid unto M^{r}. Saml. Holyoke Master of the Writing School in Queen Street the ensuing Year to be paid him Quarterly and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the Sum of Sixty Pounds Lawful Money be Allowed

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& paid unto Mr. Nathl. Gardner for his Salary as Usher of the South Grammar School, the ensuing Year to be paid him quarterly & to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the Sum of Eighty Pounds Lawful Money be allow'd and paid unto Mr. John Procter junr. for his Salary as one of the Master of the Writing School [380.] In Queen Street the ensuing Year to be paid him Quarterly and to Commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the Sum of One hundred Pounds Lawful Money be Allowed to Mr. David Jeffries for his Services as Treasurer of the Town the Year past, and for all his Expences in that Office.

The Committee appointed the 26th. of May last to Audit the Accounts of Mr. Treasurer Jeffries now Reported that they had attended that Service, and found the same right Cast, and well Vouched, in which he Charges himself with sundry Fines and other Incomes of the Town, as also with the Tax of £4000 committed to the Collectors, all which Amounts (including the ballance of old Account) to £7546,, 16,, 8¾ — And the said Treasurer discharges himself by sundry Abatements made the Collectors, by Drafts made by the Selectmen amo. to £2746,, 6,, 7¾, and by Drafts made by the Overseers of the Poor which contain the Charges of the Almshouse and Workehouse amounting to £1483,, 19,, 4 & which we have inspected in a very particular manner by examining every particular Voucher produced by the Overseers for the amount of that Sum, and every other Branch of the Publick Charge all amounting to £4254,, 1,, 2¾,, by which it appears that when all the Taxes Rents and Incomes in the Town are in, the ballance will be £2794,, 7,, 7,, ¾ which said Treasurer is further to Account for, as appears by the Tryal Ballance of said Account given in by said Committee and on File; which Report & Account being Read, Voted that the same be accepted.

The Selectmen appointed a Committee the 16th. of May last to Visit the Schools now made the following

Report Vizt.

To the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston in Town Meeting Assembled May 11: 1756.

Pursuant to a Vote of the Town of Boston at their Meeting the 16: of May last desiring the Selectmen to Visit the Publick Schools, and Invite such Gentlemen to Accompany them therein as they should think proper, do new Report.

[380½.] That on the 27th Day of June last, We attended that Service Accompanied by the following Gentleman Vizt

The Honble. John Jeffries Esqr.
The Honble. Richard Bill Esqr.
The Gentn. the Representatives of the Town
The Gentn. the Overseers of the Poor
The Revd. Mr. Samuel Mather
The Revd. Mr. Samuel Cooper
John Steele Esqr.
Thomas Greene Esqr.
Mr. James Pitts

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Mr. Oxenbridge Thacher
Mr. Treasurer Jeffries

and found in the South Grammer School there was 125 Scholars, in the South Writing School 216 Scholars, in the Writing School in Queen Street 180 Scholars, in the North Grammar School 28 Scholars, and in the North Writing School 210 Scholars, all in very good Order.

Samuel Grant
Thomas Hill
Joseph Jackson
Thomas Cushing
Samuel Hewes
John Scollay
} Selectmen.

Read & Accepted, and Voted that the Gentlemen the Selectmen be and hereby are desired to Visit the Schools this present Year, and Invite such Gentlemen to Accompany them as they shall think proper.

Voted that Thomas Greene Esqr. the Honble. Samuel Welles Esqr. Mr. John Spooner, Mr. John Rowe & Mr. Wm. Cooper Be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to Audit the Account of Mr. Treasurer Jeffries, and also the Accots. of the Overseers of the Poor, and the said Committee are directed and impowred to Inspect every particular Account of the Monies expended for the use of the Almshouse and make Report thereon, as soon as they have done the same.

[381.] The Town pass'd upon the Lists of Persons qualifyed to Serve as Petit Jurors for the Superiour and Inferiour Courts for the County of Suffolk, and Court of Sessions and proceeded to Act thereupon as the Law requires.

Voted that all Matters and things that remain unfinished be Continued over to the next General Town Meeting, to be then Considered of, and Acted upon.

Voted Unanimously that the Thanks of the Town be and hereby is given to the Honble. Thomas Hubbard Esqr. the Moderator of this Meeting, for transacting the Business thereof.

Then the Meeting was Dismiss'd.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston duly qualified and legally warned in publick Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil-Hall on Monday the fourteenth day of March AD 1757.

Prayer was made by the Revd. Dr. Joseph Sewall.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting Read.

Sundry Laws Read.

John Phillips Esqr. was chose Moderator by a written Vote and he took the Oath respecting his paying and receiving Bills of Credit of the Governments of Connecticutt, New Hampshire and Rhode Island, as required by the Act of this Province.

Ezekiel Goldthwait was unanimously chose Town Clerk for the Year ensuing, & having taken the Oath required by the Act of the 26th. of his present Majesty's Reign respecting the paying and receiving Bills of Credit of the other Governments [381½.] Took

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the Oath of Office which were administred to him by John Phillips Esqr.

Sundry Petitions Read.

The Town proceeded to the Choice of seven Selectmen and the Votes being brought in and Sorted it Appeared that

Samuel Grant Esqr.
M^{r}. Thomas Hill
Joshua Henshaw Esqr.
Joseph Jackson Esqr.
M^{r}. Thomas Cushing
M^{r}. Samuel Hewes
M^{r}. John Scollay

were unanimously chosen & took the Oath respecting their paying and receiving Bills of Credit of the neighbouring Governments as required by the Act of this Province of the 26th. of his present Majesty.

The Town brought in their Votes for 12 Overseers of the Poor, & being Sorted it appeared that.

the Honble. Andrew Oliver Esqr.
John Phillips Esqr.
M^{r}. Isaac Walker
Ebenezer Storer Esqr.
M^{r}. John Barrett
M^{r}. John Tudor
M^{r}. Royal Tyler
Thomas Flucker Esqr.
M^{r}. William Phillips
James Pitts Esqr.
Peter Chardon Esqr. Refuses.
Mr. Benj^{a}. Dolbeare

were chose Overseers of the Poor for the Year ensuing.

Voted that the Thanks of the Town be & hereby is given to the Honble. Jacob Wendell Esqr. and John Hill Esqr. for the faithful services they have done the Town as Overseers of the Poor for twenty Years past, and to Captain [**382.**] Nathaniel Greenwood for two Years past.

The Town brought in their Votes for Town Treasurer, & upon viewing them it appeared that M^{r}. David Jeffries was unanimously chose to that Office, and having taken the Oath relating to his paying and receiving Bills of Credit of the other Governments, was sworn to the faithful discharge of his Duty in that Office.

Voted that the Town proceed to the choice of twelve Constables for the Year ensuing, distinct from the Collectors of Taxes.

Voted that any Person chose into the Office of a Constable shall be excused upon his paying a Fine of Six Pounds.

Voted that not more than one Person that has heretofore Served as a Constable in this Town (within the time he was obliged by Law to serve) shall be chose this Year.

The Town brought in their Votes for 12 Constables and upon sorting them it appeared that

Messrs. Nathan Spear Sworn
Nathl. Thayer Sworn

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Benj^{a}. Adams	Sworn
Thomas Raymand	Sworn
John Joy	Excused
Hugh Moore	Excused
John Pattin	Sworn
Jacob Thayer	Sworn
Thos. Bell, Taylor	Sworn
Thos. Hubbard Hatter	Sworn
Benjamin Edes	Sworn
Daniel Pecker	Sworn

The Town brought in their Votes for a County Treasurer & they were Sealed up by Const^{a}. Patten to be by him kept & returned to the next Quarter Sessions to be holden for this County.

[382½.] Messrs. William Gray	Sworn
John Leverett	
John Deming	
Corn^{s}. Thayer	Sworn
Samuel Downe	
John Winslow Hatter	Sworn
Henderson Inches	Sworn
Daniel Boyer	Sworn
Samuel Austin	Sworn
Samuel Dexter	
Moses Peck	
Joseph Waldo	Excused
Joseph Winslow	Sworn

were chose Clerks of the Market for the Year ensuing.

Messr^{s}. William Welch	Sworn
Isaac White	Sworn
Isaac Vergoose	Sworn
William Paine	Sworn
John Greenough	Excused
William Nichols	Sworn
John Grant	
Clement Collins	
Robert Ford	
James Clark	Sworn
Andrew Symes	Sworn
Benj^{a}. Bicknell	Sworn
Moses Eayres	Sworn

were chose Surveyors of Boards &c. for the Year ensuing.

M^{r}. John Gray

was chose Surveyor of Hemp for the Year ensuing.

Messrs. Benjamin Russell	
Nathaniel Wales	
Onesiphorus Tilestone	
Thomas Crafts	
Obadiah Low	Sworn
Caleb Ray	

were chose Fence Viewers of the Year ensuing.

[383.] Messrs. Nathaniel Gardner
Joseph Belknap

were chose Informers of Deer for the Year ensuing.

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Joseph Curtis Sworn
was chose Hayward for the Year ensuing.
Messrs. David Cutler
Thos. Foster
were chose Assaymasters for the Year ensuing.
Messrs. Henry Rhodes Sworn
John Child Sworn
James Downing Sworn
were chose Sealers of Leather for the Year ensuing.
Messrs. Benj^a. Wheeler Excused
John Pulling
Nathl. Bird
John Bennet Excused
Thomas Parker
Seth Pond Sworn
were chose Hogreeves for the Year ensuing.
Belcher Noyes
Ambrose Vincent
John Forsyth
John Moffatt
Joseph Edwards
David Wheeler Excused.
Benj^a. Hodgdon
Nathan Simpson
Benj^a. Harrod
Benj^a. Fitch
Thomas Adams
John Harris
Elisha Foster
were chose Scavingers for the Year ensuing.
Selectmen, Surveyors of Highways } [In margin.]
[383½.] Tythingmen. [In margin.] Nothing done thereon.
M^r. Isaac Smith was chose an Overseer of the Poor in the Room of Peter Chardon Esqr. who declines serving.
John Phillips Esqr.
Joseph Jackson Esqr.
M^r. John Scollay
M^r. Royal Tyler
Capt. Hopestill Foster
M^r. John Rowe
Capt. Newman Greenough
Capt. Thomas Savage
Nathl. Wheelwright Esqr.
M^r. Joseph Jackson
M^r. William Cooper
Thomas Flucker Esqr.
were chose Firewards for the Year ensuing.
Messrs. Eliphalet Parker Sworn
William Warland Sworn
Constables. [In margin.]

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The Selectmen Report on the Account of Mr. John Fenno keeper of the Granary for the Year past, as is entred in his Book (and on File in the Town Clerk's Office) Read & Voted that the same be accepted and accordingly, Mr. Fenno be further accountable to the Town for 1840 Bushels of Corn, & 460 Bushels of Rye remaining unsold amounting to £289 ,, 16 ,, 0, and also for the Sum of £191 ,, 4 ,, 5 Cash now in his hands, exclusive of the Sum of £26 ,, 13 ,, 4 for his Salary and Assistance, as charged in said Accompt which is hereby allowed him.

Thomas Greene and Joseph Jackson Esqrs. and Mr. John Scollay were chose Purchasers of Grain for the Year ensuing and they are desired & impowred to give all needful directions to the keeper of the Granary respecting the Quantities of the Grain to be sold & setting the Price thereof from time to time as occasion may require.

[384.] The Article in the Warrant vizt. whether the Town will give "any additional Bounty for the Encouragement of Persons to inlist in the Service of the Province in the present Expedition" was considered of and after some debate thereon, it was Voted that said Article be dismissed.

Voted that Benjamin Prat, Charles Apthorp, Thomas Greene Richard Dana Joseph Lee and James Boutineau Esqrs. Docter William Clarke Mr. John Rowe, Mr. John Ruddock Mr. Oxenbridge Thacher Mr. Royal Tyler Mr. Thomas Cushing Mr. Isaac Walker Mr. Nathaniel Bethune & Mr. Samuel Adams, be & they hereby are appointed a Committee to apply to the General Court to enable the Town to Raise by Tax on the Inhabitants such a Sum of Money as will be needful to make up the Deficiencies of the Years 1755 & 1756 occasioned by an Abatement of the Taxes of Persons unable to pay them, and also for any other Relief that said Committee shall think necessary.

The Committee appointed the 11 of May last to Audit the Accompts of Mr. Treasurer Jeffries, now reported, that they had attended that service & found the same right cast & well vouched; in which he charges himself with sundry Fines Rents, and other Incomes of the Town, as also with the Tax of £3500 committed to the Collectors all which amounts (including the Ballance of the old Accompt) to £6807,, 19,, 9,, ¾. And the said Treasurer discharges himself by sundry Abatements made the Collectors, by Drafts made by the Selectmen amounting to £2321,, 7,, 5, And by Drafts made by Overseers of the Poor, which contain Charges of the Alms-house and Workhouse amounting to £1769,, 6,, 11 and which they had inspected in a very particular manner by examining every particular Voucher produced by the Overseers for the amount of that Sum, & every other Branch of publick Charge all amounting to £5591,, 17,, 2½ by which it appears that when all ye. Taxes Rents and Incomes of the Town are in, the Ballance will be £1216,, 2,, 7,, ¼ which the Treasurer is further to Account for, as appears by the Tryal Ballance of said Account given in by said Committee & on File, which Report and Account being Read

Voted that the same be accepted.

[384½.] Voted that Mr. John Rowe Thomas Greene Esqr. Mr. Nicholas Boylstone Mr. William Cooper & James Boutineau

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Esqr. be & they hereby are appointed a Committee to Audit the Accompts of M^{r}. Treasurer Jeffries and also the Accompts of the Overseers of the Poor and the said Committee are desired & impowred to inspect every particular Account of the Monies expended for the use of the Alms-house and make Report thereon to the Town as soon as they have done the same.

Voted that the Sum of £20 be allowed and paid to Capt. Isaac Dupee for his Salary as Clerk of Faneuil-Hall Market the Year past.

Voted that the Meeting be adjourned 'till tomorrow morning 9 o'Clock.

Tuesday Morning 9 o'Clock the Inhabitants met according to Adjournment.

Messrs.	Samuel Treat	
	Joseph Dyer	
	Edward Potter	
	Isaac Fowle	
	David Spear	
	Edward Cowell	
	John Hobbs	
	Robert Treat	
	Benj^{a}. Barnard	Sworn
	Jonathan Jenkins	

were chose Cullers of Staves &c^{a}. for the Year ensuing.

Messrs.	William Fairfield	Sworn
	John Kneeland	Sworn
	Peter Oliver	Sworn
	Benj^{a}. Church	Sworn
	Samuel Edwards	
	Isaac White	Sworn
	Daniel Marsh	Excused
	John Goldthwait	Sworn

were chose Assessors for the Year ensuing.

[**385.**] On a Motion made & seconded, Voted unanimously that the Person that shall be choose Clerk of Faneuil-Hall Market for the ensuing year be & he hereby is forbidden to buy any Provisions in said Market other than for his own Family, and if such Clerk of the Market be Convicted of the breach of this Order before the Selectmen he shall forfeit & loose his Salary from the time of such Breach.

Voted that M^{r}. Thomas Cushing, M^{r}. Oxenbridge Thacher Thomas Greene Esqr. M^{r}. Royal Tyler and M^{r}. Benj^{a}. Kent or a Major part of them be & they hereby are appointed and impowred as a Committee to accommodate in such a manner as they shall judge best the Action now depending in the Law between the Assessors and the Honble. Andrew Oliver Esqr. & others which the Town formerly Voted to defend at their Cost, and Report their doings thereon to the Town.

Voted that the Auditors of the Accompts of the Overseers of the Poor chose this Meeting be and they hereby are directed and impowred when they shall Audit said Accompts to allow to said Overseers or such of them as shall hereafter advance Monies for the

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support of the Poor, Interest on all Sums from the time advanc'd till the day of payment.

The Town passed upon the List of Persons qualified to serve as Petit Jurors at the Superiour and Inferiour Courts for the County of Suffolk and Court of Sessions and proceeded to act thereupon as the Law requires.

Voted that no Person shall be chose a Collector of Taxes for the present Year who has heretofore served in that Office, and cannot produce Receipts in full from the several Treasurers whom he was obliged to pay for the Year 1755.

Voted that the Sum of twelve pence on the Pound be and hereby is allowed to be paid to such Persons as shall be chose Collectors of Taxes for the Year ensuing for all such Sums as they shall Collect provided they pay into the Town Treasury one half part of the whole Sum they are obliged to pay [385½.] Him within four Months from the time they receive the Tax Books from the Assessors, and the other half part in three Months after, and also pay into the Province & County Treasuries one half part of the whole Sums they shall be obliged to pay them respectively in seven Months from the time they shall receive the Tax Books from the Assessors as aforesaid, and the other half part in five Months after; and in case either of said Collectors shall fail paying in manner aforesaid, the Collector so failing shall not be entitled to the aforesaid Allowance of twelve pence on the Pound but wholly forfeit the same; provided also that each of said Collectors give Bond with sufficient Sureties to the satisfaction of the Selectmen for the faithful discharge of their Duty in said Office and complying with this Vote.

The Inhabitants brought in their Votes for four Collectors of Taxes, and upon sorting them it appeared that

Messrs. John Ruddock
James Scutt
Jonathan Payson
Samuel Adams

were chose into that Office for the Year ensuing.

The Petition of John Tilestone setting forth that he had served a regular Apprenticeship in one of the Publick Writing Schools in this Town, and has for two Years & a half had the favour of being appointed Usher in one of them where he now is; and he having at this time just entred on the Stage of Life for himself, finds his Board & Expences in it exceed your Grant that was allowed him in his Apprenticeship, & humbly praying that the Town would allow him what further support they in their Wisdom shall think needful, was Read, and thereupon it was Voted that the Sum of Fifty Pounds p Annum be & hereby is allowed to said John Tilestone during the time he shall Officiate as Usher in said School, the same to commence from the 12th day of February last and to be paid him quarterly as it shall become due.

Capt. Isaac Dupee was chose Clerk of Faneuil-Hall Market for the Year ensuing.

[386.] Voted unanimously that the Assessors be and hereby are impowred to sit 'till the first day of April next and no longer

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for making an Abatement of the Taxes of such Persons as they shall judge reasonable; saving that they have liberty to sit the two last Weeks in November next, to abate (if they see cause) the Taxes of all such Persons as shall appear to them to have been out of the Province, and so could not have made Application to them for an Abatement before said first day of April.

Ordered that this Vote be immediately Printed, and that the Constables leave the same at the Dwelling Houses of such of the Inhabitants as are within their respective Wards, that none may plead ignorance thereof.

Voted that the Assessors Report to the Town at the intended Adjournment of this Meeting what Abatement of Taxes they shall then have made.

Voted that the Assessors may sit the two last Weeks in November next to abate (if they see cause) the Taxes of such Persons as shall appear to them to have become Bankrupts or have died between the said first day of April and said time of Sitting, and which the Collectors shall have endeavour'd to have got in but could not.

The Town considered of sundry Proposals offered in Writing relating to the Dirt in the Streets which are as follows Viz^t. Proposals offered to the Town of Boston relating to the Street Dirt March 14: 1757.

1st. That the Town do pass a Vote that no Person do carry away the Street Dirt unless by the Order of the Selectmen.

2^ly. That the Selectmen be directed to divide the Town into several Wards & to Farm the same Wards to the highest Bidder for one two or more Years.

3^ly. The Farmer to be under Obligation to carry away all Dirt in his Ward within 24 hours after the same is rak'd up by the Abutters.

4^thly. In case he neglect that he forfeit the Sum of for such Default, & the Abutter may procure another Cart to carry away the same Dirt at the expence of the Farmer.

[386½.] And after some Debate thereon, Voted that Messrs. Oxenbridge Thacher Samuel Adams & William Story be & they hereby are appointed a Committee to take the same into Consideration and prepare a By-Law for the better Regulation & Sale thereof in such a manner as they shall judge most for the Advantage of the Town, & Report thereon at the intended Adjournment of this Meeting.

The Petition of a great Number of the Inhabitants setting forth, that there is a vacant Peice of Land belonging to the Town in Water street that for many Years was occupied only for a Tann heap, as it was judged to be of some small advantage to the Poor, Tan being brought there from the several Tan Yards that were then near, but as those Places are now mostly improved for other uses, scarce any Tan has been put on said vacant Peice of Land for a long time, but the same now is and for a considerahle time past has been a Publick Nusance, many Persons having put quantities of Filth, and some emptied their Vaults there, that it is not only very inconvenient to the Inhabitants that dwell near, but extreamly

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offensive especially in the Summer Season, when they have no comfort or satisfaction in their own Houses, occasioned by the disagreeable Stench arising from this Nusance. The Petitioners therefore pray the Town will now take the same into Consideration, and Order that said vacant Ground be added to Water-Street as no other use can be made of it and that the same may be paved at the Expence of some of the Inhabitants that live near it; the Petitioners being Inform'd there are some who are willing for their own Convenience & Comfort to be at that expence rather than it should lay as it does, and by this means the Petitioners apprehend said Nusance will be removed, and thereby an Expence saved the Town who are liable to be Presented therefor. —— said Petition was Read, and the same being Consider'd of & Debated upon, It was Voted that the Prayer of the Petition be granted, & that the said Lands heretofore improved as a Tanheap be & hereby is added to said Water Street, & for the future to be accounted part thereof, provided that it shall appear to the Selectmen that the same is the Property of the Town, and also that Capt. James Dalton one of the Petitioners give a legal Quit Claim to the Town of all his Interest therein (if any he has) and in any [387.] Other Lands he has added to said Street; as also that some of the Petitioners or any other Persons give Security to said Selectmen that the Land hereby added to said Street shall be soon Paved at their expence and to the satisfaction of the Selectmen.

Samuel Grant Esqr. Mr. Thomas Hill Joshua Henshaw and Joseph Jackson Esqrs. Mr. Thomas Cushing Mr. Samuel Hewes and Mr. John Scollay appointed by an Act of the General Court Managers of Boston Lotteries for raising Monies to Pave & Repair the Neck, presented their Account for Lottery Number one drawn in August last being as follows vizt.

To Samuel Grant for time spent in Signing & Numbering Ticketts, selling ditto, rolling up the Numbers Blanks & Prizes drawing said Lottery, & paying the benefit Ticketts . . . . . £18.

To Thomas Hill for ditto	18,,	12.	
To Joshua Henshaw for ditto	17,,	11.	
To Joseph Jackson for ditto	17,,	8.	
To Thomas Cushing for ditto	18,,	—	
To Samuel Hewes for ditto	17,,	8	—
To John Scollay for ditto	17,,	13,,	9
	£124,,	13,,	9.

which Account being Read, It was unanimously Voted that the same be and hereby is accepted.

The Petition of John Wardel setting forth that he for nine Years last past has been employed by the Town as Hayweigher and as such has annually paid into the Town Treasury twenty Pounds Lawful money as also the Rent and Repairs of the Hay-Market during which time the Petitioner has acted with Fidelity as far as he knows; but of late an Advertisement was put into the public Prints setting forth in purport that the Petitioner had not done justice in weighing of Hay &cc. as in said Print is more fully mentioned; upon reading of which the Petitioner immediately applyed

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himself to the Selectmen of the Town and told them that the Scales were right as he apprehended, excepting that the weights by reason of their being wore were something too light; whereupon the Gentlemen Selectmen Ordered him to carry them to the Sealer to have them Rectifyed which Orders were immediately obeyed and the wantage in the whole number of weights was a pound and three ounces for which the Petitioner was wont to make [387½.] Allowance but the Gentlemen Selectmen directly dismiss'd the Petitioner as Hay-weigher and took the keys from him . . . Now in as much as the Petitioner has for many Years past got his Livelihood by Acting as Hay-weigher and has ever Acted with Integrity in said Office, begs that he may not be turned out without having the least Notice, and only by means of an Advertisement zealously Worded for the good of the Town or rather of the Advertizer, that the Petitioner did not know that it was his Buisness to get the Weights Sealed but that the Gentlemen the Selectmen would direct and inspect into that Affair as occasion might Offer; but if the Petitioner had been guilty of any inadvertancy (which he is ignorant of) he hopes to be more Attentive for the future and in all Respects comply with the directions and injunctions of the Town or Selectmen touching the said Hay-maker, wherefore he prays the Town to take the Premisses into their wise Consideration and restore him to the Office of Hay-weigher again, and if upon Tryal he does not the reasonable expectations of the Town he will chearfully submit to their determination, was Read, as also the Petition of sundry Inhabitants to prevent any Person's Engrossing of Hay bro't to Market for Sale; and the Town took said Petitions into Consideration, and after some Debate thereon, Voted that the Selectmen be and they hereby are directed & impowred to appoint such Person as they shall think proper to weigh Hay at said Engine, & on such Terms as they shall judge best & from time to time give all necessary directions and orders concerning it, and take such Security from the Hay weigher as shall by them be thought reasonable. Also Voted that no Person that shall be appointed by the Selectmen to weigh Hay at said Engine, shall purchase or engross any Hay brought to Market for Sale either by Land or Water but for his own use, and when it shall appear to the satisfaction of the Selectmen that he has so done they are desired immediately to dismiss him.

Voted that this Meeting be and hereby is Adjourned to Friday the 15: of April next at nine o'Clock in the forenoon.

The Town met according to their Adjournment & upon a motion made & Seconded Voted that this Meeting be further Adjourned to Wednesday the 20th. Instant at 3 o'Clock in the Afternoon.

[388.] Wednesday April 20: 1757 The Town met according to their Adjournment.

Benjamin Prat Esqr. and the other Gentlemen appointed a Committee the 14: March last to apply to the General Court &c presented to the Town a Copy of the Petition they preferr'd to said Court & is as follows vizt.

To his Honour Spencer Phips Esqr. Lieut. Governour and Commander in Chief of said Province the Honble. Council and House

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of Representatives in General Court Assembled March 30th. 1757.

The Petition of the Inhabitants of the Town of Boston. Humbly shews.

That the Power of the Assessors to ease Persons by abateing their Taxes seems by a paragraph of the Province Act of the fourth of George the second, Chapter the first to be restrained to only such cases as where such Persons are Rated more than their Proportion with others.

That besides a great Number of Poor in Boston who are either wholly or in part maintained by the Town, & so are exempt from being Taxed, there are many who are Rateable according to Law either for their Polls or Tenements that they occupy or both, who are yet in such poor Circumstances that considering how little Buisness there is to be done in Boston they can scarcely procure from day to day daily Bread for themselves and Families, at the same time so heavy are the Taxes in Boston that each of such Persons proportion thereof for the Tenement wherein he lives will amount to a sufficiency to pay not only all Taxes but Rent too for a Tenement of equal goodness in most of the other Towns in this Province. These peculiar Circumstances have induced the Assessors of the Town of Boston to ease many of such persons by abateing their Taxes, thô realy they were not assessed at more than their legal proportion, and their Abatements for the Year 1755 amounted to £1460, and such Abatements for the Year 1756 already amount to £1950 more: that these Abatements in these two Years amount to much more than was at all expected, and some Contingent Town. Charges have also unexpectedly happened so that the Fund appropriated in the Town Treasury for making good Abatement's is outrun, and the Town on [388½.] It's own Account much in Debt even exclusive of these Defficiencies this situation is peculiarly alarming to your Petitioners as by means thereof there is not any fund in the Town Treasury for paying the Town Charges, all the Servants of the Town are unpaid, & many of them greatly suffering for want of their Dues;

The Poor suported either wholly or in part by the Town in the Alms-house and out of it will amount to the Number of about one thousand cannot longer be supported, as in Effect both the Money and Credit of this Town by the means abovementioned gone; And may it please your Honours your Petitioners apprehend that without your Honours Aid they can never be releived, for on the one hand it seems to be doubtful whether the Town has legal Power to Tax the Inhabitants to make good the present Defficiences arising upon Abatements if not Warranted by Law, especially the amount being so large, and the great Mischiefs of making so large a Tax as these Defficiences amount to that is open to disputes and altercations your Honours will readily see. & on the other hand such a Tax would be an excesive Burthen on a Town that by loss of its Trade, loss of its People and increase of its Poor and load of Taxes is brought to the brink of utter Ruin; For, may it please your Honours, 'tis notorious that the Province exclusive of this Town is greatly increased in Numbers Trade and

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Rateable Estates within 20 Years last past; while in the mean time the Trade and Rateable Polls of this declining Town within that Period are reduced near one half, and yet its proportion of the Tax is nearly the same as in its flourishing State; and as this Malencholly situation of this Town has been often Remonstrated to your Honours, your Petitioners confide in your goodness that they shall obtain Releif in that respect as soon as a Valuation can be taken through the Province, and be intitled to a considerable Allowance at the least for the Year 1756 pursuant to the Resolve of your Honours on the ninth day of April last Viz^t.

"That the proportion of the several Towns and Districts towards the Tax for the Year 1756 or any other Year, before a new Valuation shall be compleated shall be finally adjusted & settled according to the Proportion which the several Towns and Districts within this Province shall be set in the next valuation."

[**389.**] And as the Valuation is not yet taken, & that Allowance cannot be adjusted, and your Petitioners distresses call for immediate Relief Your Petitioners humbly pray your Honours would be pleased to authorize the Town by Vote in Town Meeting to raise by a Tax on the Polls & Estates of the Town the Sum of £3410 or more if necessary to supply the defficiency arising from the Abatements aforesaid, and that your Honours in order to supply the present Necessities and give your Petitioners present Relief would further please to indulge the Town with the benefit and use of the like Sum of £3410 out of the Province Tax apporportioned to this Town for the Year 1756 and dispence with their paying the same to the Province Treasury untill the Valuation shall be taken & this Town's Proportion be thereupon adjusted, or otherwise releive your Petitioners as your Wisdom & Goodness shall direct. which was Read.

Upon a Motion made and seconded, It was Voted that the Committee appointed the 14 of March last to apply to the General Court to enable the Town to raise by Tax on the Inhabitants such a Sum of Money as should be needful to make up the Defficiencies of the Years 1755 & 1756 occasioned by an Abatement of the Taxes of Persons unable to pay them; and also for any other Relief the said Committee shall think necessary, be & they hereby are further impowred to consider of any other Methods that they may judge proper in order to obtain Relief as to the proportion of the Publick Taxes, and to prefer any Petition or Petitions to the General Court from time to time as the said Committee may think effectual for those Purposes.

Also Voted that the Article in the Warrant relating to this Affair be & hereby is referr'd to the Meeting in May next for further Consideration.

The Committee appointed the 14th of March last to Consider of sundry proposals offered in Writing relating to the Dirt in the Streets, & prepare a By-Law for the better Regulation & Sale thereof, Report that they have considered of said Proposals & are of Opinion that they are beneficial to the Town, and that the Method therein propos'd will both contribute to keep the Streets cleaner than heretofore they have been, and also produce some

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Monies by the [389½.] Dirt, but as the Town have already Voted to Revise all their By-Laws, and the Committee who have them under Consideration will (as they are Informed) be ready to Report thereon at the next May Meeting, and as the subject matter of said proposals may be easier comprized among other By-Laws, then by a single By-Law, for these Reasons they have not drawn a By-Law but report that the Town do Instruct said Committee for revising their By-Laws to Insert among them one for the purpose abovementioned. which being Read, Voted that said Report be accepted, and that the Committee appointed for revising the By-Laws of the Town be and hereby are Instructed & directed to prepare & Report a By-Law relating to the Dirt in the Streets and for the Regulation and Sale thereof.

Voted that all Matters & Things that remain unfinished be & they hereby are referred & continued over to the Meeting of the Town in May next to be then taken into Consideration & Acted upon.

Voted that the Thanks of the Town be & hereby is given to John Phillips Esqr. the Moderator for transacting the Buisness of this Meeting.

Then the Meeting was dismiss'd.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston legally qualified & warned in Public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil-Hall on Tuesday the tenth day of May A D 1757.

Prayer was made by the Rev'd. Mr. Thomas Prince.

The Precept & Warrant for calling the Meeting. Read.

Sundry Laws. Read.

Samuel Grant Esqr one of the Selectmen proposed in their Name to the Inhabitants Assembled to proceed to the [390.] Choice of one or more Persons to represent them in the Great and General Court or Assembly to be held at Boston upon Wednesday the 25th day of May current, and in order therto, to consider & ascertain the number of Gentlemen to be elected, accordingly It was Voted to proceed to the choice of four Representatives, and then it was declared by the Selectmen that no Votes should be received after twelve o'Clock, but the Poll then closed.

The Votes being Collected, the Number of voters were found to be 528, and upon Sorting them it appeared that the three following Gentlemen only were chose vizt.

	Votes
The hon^ble Thomas Hubbard Esqr.	444
Thomas Flucker Esqr.	500
Benjamin Prat Esqr.	447

Which being declared the Inhabitants were directed to bring in their Votes for one Representative, which they accordingly did, & it appeared there were 491 Voters, but upon sorting them there was no Choice. The Selectmen then directed that this Meeting be Adjourned to three o'Clock in the Afternoon for the choice of another Representatives, at the same time informing the Inhabitants that the Poll would be closed precisely at four o'Clock and

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no Votes received after, and said Meeting is adjourned accordingly.

Three o'Clock in the Afternoon, the Inhabitants Assembled and brought in their Votes for one Representative and upon Collecting them it appeared there were 754 Voters, & that

Mr John Tyng

was chose by a Majority of Votes having	401
and Samuel Welles Esqr had	349

The Election of Representatives being over the same was declared by the Selectmen.

The Inhabitants proceeded to bring in their Votes for a Moderator, and upon Sorting them it appeared that Benja Prat Esqr was chose, & he having taken the Oath required by an Act of this Province relating to his receiving and paying Bills of Credit of the Governments of Connecticut New Hampshire & Rhode Island; took his Seat.

[**390½.**] The Petitions Read.

The Petition of sundry Freeholders and Inhabitants setting forth that about thirty Years ago the Town erected several wooden Shops on the North side of Faneuil Hall Market and have ever since Rented them out, during which time large Sums of Money have been expended to keep them in Repair, that they are now so much gone to decay as to be scarce tenantable, and as your Memorialists are informed, there must be immediate & thorough Repairs made of them, which if done will amount to a very considerable Sum of Money & its probable in a few Years after, will want other Repairs so that the Rent thereof will not be equal to the Repairs; which all must allow to be a very bad Estate as upon the whole it will bring the Town in Debt as long as said Shops are there.

Your Memorialists would also inform that the open Dock behind said Shops is become very nauseous & offensive to all the Inhabitants that live near, & to the Merchants and others who have Warehouses on the Dock, and obliged to do their Business in them; and as the keeping of said Dock open, is not of the least benefit (that your Memorialists know of) to any Inhabitants, but if fill'd up will remove the disagreeable Stench arising from it; as also by this means there will be a large commodious Square to accomodate the Market People who have for some Years so filled up the Streets and every other Place round the Publick Market that it is become an intolerable Greviance to the Inhabitants, & has been & still is Matter of just Complaint; it may also be of great benefit in case of Fire to receive any Goods the Inhabitants may have occasion to remove there and in many other Respects will be a great service to the Town.

Your Memorialists therefore upon the whole pray that the Town will take the Premisses into Consideration and Order that said Shops may be removed or demolish'd & said Dock fill'd up so far & in such a manner as shall be judged best, without any prejudice to the Proprietors that have a right of Drains &ca. to said Dock; [**391.**] Was Read, and after some debate thereon it was mov'd that a Committee be chose to consider of said Petition & Report

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thereon, and the Question being put it was Voted in the Negative, and then a Question was put whether said Petition so far as it relates to demolishing the Shops or Buildings be dismissed, and it passed in the Affirmative; And then it was mov'd & seconded that a Question be put, whether a Committee shall be chose to enquire into the Rights of the Town to the Dock, and the Right of the Abutters thereon, and whether it is expedient to fill up any part of the Dock, and how much thereof, and the Question being accordingly put it passed in the Affirmative, & thereupon It was Voted that Thomas Greene Esqr. M^{r}. Benj^{a}. Kent, Capt. Isaac White & M^{r}. William Fairfield and Jeremiah Greene Esq^{rs}. be a Committee for those Purposes, they are desired to Report thereon as soon as may be.

The Petition of John Hill Esqr. setting forth that he hired of the Town the East side of the Neck by a Lease commencing the first day of March AD 1749 and for the Term of Thirty one Years upon certain Conditions on his part as set forth in said Lease, all of which he has hitherto faithfully complyed with.

And upon the Petitioners first undertaking this Affair he computed the Cost and then apprehended it would amount to about two hundred Pounds L. M. in which he had the concurring Opinion of his Friends and many other Gentlemen of undoubted good judgment in those Affairs. — however after he had engaged in Building the Dam he was soon convinced that the expence would arise to a much higher Sum, but was then obliged to go on or lose what he had by that time laid out upon it.

The Petitioner look'd upon himself bound in honour to the faithful performance of this weighty Contract however expensive it might prove & therefore spared no necessary Cost in Building the Dam so as that it might not only serve to his own Advantage during the Lease, but also to the Town forever after, this he did with the more chearfullness as he would not possibly allow himself to [**391½.**] Think they would suffer him to be greatly hurt much less Ruin'd by an undertaking in which he was sincerely consious of his having at heart not barly his own private benefit but theirs too. The Dam is now compleat and the Petitioner presumes is as well finished as is possible, it has stood the Shocks of two Winters, the last perhaps as Stormy as any one can remember and yet remain undisturbed — the Expence is very near £650 lawful money which being so much more than the Original Calculation has drawn away that Stock which the Petitioner should have reserved for his Capital Buisness & compleated his Misfortunes.

The Petitioner has further to say, that in Building this Dam he has taken in double the Quantities of Land he was by Contract obliged to which any one will easily perceive will hereafter be of Advantage to the Town in proportion to his extraordinary Expence & Trouble.

And upon the whole it is the prayer of the Petitioner that the Town would candidly consider his unfortunate Circumstances and as he is now out of all Capacity of fullfilling the remaining Conditions of his Bargain, that they would release him & allow him such a Sum for his Expence as shall be thought adequate to it.

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The Petitioner has it not in his power now to serve the Town as he has for a course of Years heretofore chearfully done yet for their best prosperity he ever prays, was Read & thereupon It was Voted that Thomas Flucker Esqr. M^r. Royal Tyler and Doctor William Clark be and they hereby are appointed a Committee to consider of said Petition and Report what is best for the Town to do thereon.

The Article in the Warrant vizt. whether the Assessors may be allowed to sit to make Abatement of Taxes at any other time than they were impowred to do by the Vote passed in March last, was taken into Consideration & thereupon It was Voted that the Assessors do not sit to make Abatement of Taxes at any other time than that mentioned in the Vote passed in March last.

[392.] Voted that the Sum of Five Thousand Pounds Lawful money be raised by a Tax upon Polls & Estates within this Town for the Relief of the Poor, and defreying other necessary Charges arising within the Town the Year ensuing.

Voted that the Sum of One hundred and twenty Pounds be allowed & paid unto M^r. Peleg Wiswall for his Salary as Master of the North Grammar School for the ensuing Year the same to be paid him quarterly, and to commence at the expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the Sum or One hundred & twenty Pounds be allowed & paid unto M^r. John Lovel for his Salary as Master of the South Grammar School the ensuing Year the same to be paid him quarterly, & to commence at the expiration of the last quarter.

Voted that the Sum of One hundred Pounds be allowed & paid unto M^r. Abia Holbrook for his Salary as Master of the Writing School in the Common the Year ensuing to be paid him quarterly & to commence at the expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the Sum of One hundred Pounds be allowed & paid unto M^r. Zach^a. Hicks for his Salary as Master of the North Writing School, to be paid him quarterly, and to commence at the Expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the Sum of Eighty Pounds be allowed and paid unto M^r. Samuel Holyoke for his Salary as one of the Masters of the Writing School in Queen Street the ensuing Year to be paid him quarterly & to commence at the expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the Sum of Eighty Pounds be allowed & paid unto M^r. John Procter for his Salary as one of the Masters of the Writing School in Queen Street the ensuing Year, to be paid quarterly, & to commence at the expiration of the last Quarter.

Voted that the Sum of Sixty Pounds be allowed and paid unto M^r. Nathaniel Gardner for his Salary as Usher of the South Grammar School, the ensuing Year to be paid Quarterly & to commence at the expiration of the last Quarter,

[392½.] Voted that the Sum of Fifty Pounds be allowed & paid unto M^r. John Vinal for his Salary as Usher of the Writing School in the Common for the ensuing Year to be paid him Quarterly & to commence the first day of June next.

Voted that the Sum of One hundred Pounds be allowed & paid

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unto Mr. David Jeffries for his Services as Treasurer of the Town the year past, & for all his Expences in that Office.

The Committee appointed the 14th. of March last to accomodate in such a manner as they should judge best, the Action now depending in the Law between the Assessors & the Honble. Andrew Oliver Esqr. and others which the Town formerly Voted to Defend at their Cost, now reported that they had attended that Service and have met the Assessors and plaintiffs aforesaid. and on the whole have agreed with Andrew Oliver Esqr. & others that at the sitting of the next Superiour Court the Order of the General Court made respecting the Action between the said Andrew Oliver and others & William Fairfield & others shall be complied with & the said Andrew Oliver & others are then to become Nonsuit and are to be refunded the Sum taken from them by distress being Two Pounds five shillings for which this Action was brought and each Party bear their own Costs; And we further Report that we are of Opinion that to prevent any dispute of the like kind with the said Oliver and others that the Sum of Twenty one Pounds seventeen shillings and eleven pence being the amount of what they were Rated for on Account of William Thompson Esqr. for the Years 1746, 1747, 1748, 1749, 1750, 1751, 1752, be refunded to said Oliver and others; which was Read & Accepted and Voted that the said Andrew Oliver Esqr. be refunded & paid the several Sums mentioned in said Report accordingly.

Voted that Andrew Oliver junr. Esqr. be & hereby is Added to the Committee appointed the 14: of March last to apply to the General Court to enable the Town to raise by a Tax such a Sum as will be necessary to make up the Defficiencies of the Years 1755 and 1756 and for other Relief & Ca.

[**393.**] The Selectmen appointed a Committee the 11th. of May last to Visit the Schools now made the following Report Vizt.

To the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston in Town Meeting Assembled May 10th. 1757.

Pursuant to a Vote of the Town of Boston at their Meeting the 11th. of May last desiring the Selectmen to Visit the Public Schools, and Invite such Gentlemen to accompany them therein as they should think proper, do now Report.

That on the 25th day of June last, We attended that Service, accompanied by the following Gentlemen.

The Honble. John Osborne Esqr.
Richard Bill Esqr.
Stephen Sewall Esqr.
Joseph Pyncheon Esqr. &
John Erving Esqr.
The Gentn. the Representatives of the Town of Boston.
The Gentlemen the Overseers of the Poor.
The Revd., Dr. Sewall
Dr. Chauncey
Mr. Pemberton
Mr. Mather
Mr. Eliot

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M^r^. Checkley
M^r^. Treasurer Gray
Joshua Winslow
Danl. Henchman
John Steele
Thos. Hancock
James Bowdoin &
Thos. Greene } Esq^rs^.
M^r^. John Rowe
M^r^. John Spooner
M^r^. Willm. Cooper &
M^r^. Treas^r^. Jeffries.

And found in the South Grammar School there was 128 Scholars, in the South Writing School 224 Scholars, in the Writing School in Queen Street 180 Scholars, in the North Grammar School 32 Scholars, & in the North Writing School 225 Scholars, all in very good Order.

Read & Accepted, & Voted that the Gentlemen the Selectmen be and they hereby are desired to Visit the Schools this present Year, & invite such Gent^n^. to accompany them as they shall think proper.

Voted that this Meeting he & hereby is Adjourned to Wednesthe 22^d^. of June next at three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

[393½.] Wednesday June 22^d^. three o'Clock in the Afternoon, the Inhabitants met according to their Adjournment, and upon a Motion made and Seconded; It was Voted that this Meeting be and hereby is Adjourned to Monday the first day of August next, at three o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Monday the first day of August three o'Clock in the Afternoon the Inhabitants met according to their Adjournment.

The Committee appointed the tenth of May last, on the Memorial of sundry Freeholders & Inhabitants for filling up the Town Dock &c^a^. Reported that they had Examined the Town's Right in the Dock aforesaid, and also of the Abutters thereon; and find that the Town has a good Right in & unto the said Dock, and that the Abutters thereon, have a Right to Dockage Wharffage and Moorage there; so that the Town has no Right to fill up said Dock, and if the Town have that Right, they are of Opinion that it will not be for the Interest of the Town to fill up said Dock, either in the whole or in any part; which Report being Read, It was Voted that the same be, and hereby is Accepted.

Whereas the Town at their Meeting the eleventh of May 1756 Voted that the Selectmen be desired to Employ some Persons learned in the Law, to Revise and alter all the By Laws of the Town then in force, in such manner as they should judge most Beneficial to the Town &c^a^. The Selectmen now Reported that Pursuant to said Vote they had Employed Benj^a^. Prat Esqr. and M^r^. Oxenbridge Thacher, two Gentlemen learned in the Law on that Service, and that they had accordingly gone through the Revisal of all the By Laws and Orders of the Town, and made sundry Alterations and Additions to them, all which the Selectmen, were now ready to present to the Town; Whereupon said By Laws and

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Orders as Revised & Altered were distinctly and seperately Read, and some further Alterations being made by the Town: The Freeholders and Inhabitants after mature Consideration thereof, Voted that said By Laws and Orders be and hereby are Accepted & [394.] Passed as the By-Laws and Orders of the Town for the future Regulation and Government thereof.

The By-Laws & Orders as now passed & Voted, being as follows. Viz^t.

CHAPTER THE FIRST.

For preventing Danger by Fire, in the Town of Boston.

It is Voted and Ordered that the Selectmen for the time being, upon Complaint to them made or otherwise upon their own knowledge, of any defective Chimnies in this Town, shall from time to time take effectual Care to have the same Viewed and Surveyed by proper Persons, by them for that purpose to be appointed, and if upon the view & survey, said Chimnies shall be found so defective, as in their Judgment to be dangerous to be used on Account of Fire; the Selectmen shall make a Record thereof, and of the particulars of the Defect or Defects, and give to the Occupier of the House or Tenement to which the Defective Chimney belongs a Copy of said Entry, with Warning not to make any Fire in such Chimney, 'till said Defect or Defects are curved either by Amending repairing or rebuilding said Chimney, thereupon if the Occupant of such Tenement shall suffer a Fire to be made and kept in said Chimney, before said Chimney be cured of such Defect or Defects, such Occupant shall forfeit and pay the Sum of five shillings for every day in which a Fire shall be so made and kept.

And if the Occupant of any House or Tenement shall neglect or refuse for the space of twenty four hours after Request, to suffer such persons appointed as aforesaid, to view & survey any Chimney suspected of being defective as aforesaid, such Occupant shall forfeit & pay for such Offence the Sum of fifteen shillings, and so from time to time the same Sum for every such Offence as often as the same shall be Committed.

And it is further Ordered that the Selectmen of the Town for the time being be hereby directed & impowred from time to time to appoint one or more suitable Persons to be Sweepers of Chimnies within this Town whose Wages for their Work and Service shall not exceed the Rates hereafter mentioned. Viz^t.

[394½.] For each Chimney of five Stories high one shilling & four pence.

For each Chimney of four Stories high one shilling & two pence.

For each Chimney of three Stories high one shilling.

And other Common Chimnies eight pence.

And all Kitchen Chimnies that are above the Tops of the House they belong to in proportion to the heighth of the House at the Rate above.

And it is further Ordered that if any Person who is not so appointed as aforesaid, shall presume either by himself or Servant,

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to undertake the Sweeping of any Chimney in this Town, except such Chimney or Chimnies as as are under his or their own Improvement, such Person shall forfeit & pay the Sum of ten shillings for every such Offence.

And it is further Ordered that all Persons so appointed by the Selectmen to be the Undertakers of Chimney Sweeping shall be Obliged within forty eight Hours (after Notice given, either by themselves, or some other proper Person) duly to attend the Sweeping of such Chimney on Penalty of forfeiting ten shillings for every such Neglect.

And it is further Ordered that upon Complaint made to any of the Selectmen, either by the Chimney Sweepers, or by any other of the Inhabitants of this Town, against any Person or Persons neglecting to have their Chimnies Swept being foul, that in every such Case, the Selectmen, or any two of them, are hereby Impowred to inspect and view such Chimney Complain'd of as aforesaid; And if they judge the said Chimnies or any of them unsafe to make or keep Fire therein, by reason of their being foul and want of Sweeping, and signify the same to the Person or Persons, then in possession of the Tenement to which such Chimney doth belong, that then and every such Case the Occupier of every such House or Tenement shall forfeit & pay the Sum of five shillings for every day in which Fire shall be kept in such Chimney untill the same shall be sufficiently Swept; and if the Occupant of any House or Tenement shall neglect or refuse for the space of twenty four Hours after Request to suffer the Selectmen aforesaid to view and survey any Chimnies suspected of being foul as aforesaid; such Occupant shall forfeit and pay for such Offence the Sum of fifteen [**395.**] Shillings, and so from time to time, the same Sum for every such Offence, as often as the same shall be Committed.

And it is further Ordered that if any Chimney shall take Fire and blaze out at the Top, through foulness, or for want of Sweeping, the Occupier of the Tenement shall forfeit and pay the Sum of twenty shillings; unless it shall happen within forty two days after said Chimney shall have been swept, & then, and in such Case, the Person who last Swept the same, or in case of his being a Servant or a Slave, his Master or Owner shall forfeit and pay the aforesaid twenty shillings.

And it is further Ordered that no Persons shall presume hereafter, to carry Fire in this Town abroad, or in and through the open Air, from any House or Place, to any other House or Place, but in a Warming Pan or other safe Vessell well Covered, so as to secure the Fire from the Wind, and from being Scattered by the Way, or in the Streets and Lanes, or on the Buildings, on the Penalty & forfeiture of two shillings.

And it is further Ordered that whoever shall kindle or make, or be aiding and assisting in making or kindling, in the Open Air within two Rods of any House Warehouse Wood-Pile or any other Combustible Matter, subject to take Fire (except in Shipwrights Building Yards, Coopers and Ropemakers Works, a careful Person standing by to watch the same) shall forfeit and pay the Sum of twelve shillings.

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Provided the Order last aforesaid shall not be understood to debar any Tradesman or others from kindling Charcoal in a Pot or Pan out of Doors near his House or Shop at any time during the day light, in Case some careful Person shall stand by the same to watch it, as long as it shall continue in the open Street, but not otherwise.

And it is further Ordered that no Coopers within this Town shall fire or burn their Casks in any shop Warehouse or other Place, than in a sufficient Brick or Stone Chimney made convenient for that use on Penalty of forfeiting the Sum of ten shillings for every Offence contrary to this Order.

And it is further Ordered that no Person shall henceforth make and fire any Lime Kiln, or erect or burn any [395½.] Brick Kiln, but in such Place and Places as the Selectmen for the time being shall approve and allow of, on Penalty of twenty shillings to be paid by every Person transgressing this Order.

CHAPTER THE SECOND.

Concerning the Streets and Lanes Nusances therein, and the Dirt thereof.

It is Voted and Ordered that no Person henceforth shall break or digg up the Ground in any of the Streets and Lanes of this Town on any occasion, without the leave & approbatoin of two at least of the Selectmen for the time being, and whoever shall offend herein, shall forfeit the Sum of twenty shillings, and whoever shall obtain such leave shall cause the Holes in the Ground, to be every Night carefully covered, so as no Person walking the Streets may be in danger of falling in, and shall also within such time as the said Selectmen shall appoint cause the whole to be repaired and amended, on Penalty of either of those two last mentioned Offences of the like Sum of twenty shillings, these several Penalties to be forfeited by the Person by whose direction the Ground is so broke up.

And it further Ordered that no Person whosoever shall carry any Dirt, Dung, Garbidge, Dead Carcass, Carrion, Shavings, Soil or Rubbish from their Houses Shops or Yards to lay the same in the Streets or Lanes of this Town on Penalty of four shillings for every dead Carcass or Carrion so laid, and three shillings for any other Dirt or Annoyance that shall lye above the space of six Hours.

And it is further Ordered that when any of the Inhabitants of this Town shall be Building or Repairing their Houses or digging Cellars Wells or Vaults, they shall carefully lay their Timber and other Materials, so as they shall be no Obstruction to Carts and other Conveyances passing by & shall remove all the Rubbish and Dirt brought out: And no Timber so brought, or Dirt or Rubbish so carried out, shall in any Case remain above the Space of twenty four Hours, in any part of the Street, without leave from two Selectmen at the least nor longer [396.] Without the leave of the Major part of the Selectmen: And the Person Building or Repair-

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ing or Digging shall be deemed the Offender in any of these Particulars, and shall for each Offence forfeit the Sum of ten shillings.

And it is further Ordered that henceforth no Cart Dray Trucks or Sled, drawn by either Horse or Horses, Horse & Oxen, shall be suffered to pass through any of the Streets or Lanes of this Town, but with a sufficient Driver, who shall during such Passage, keep with his said Cart Dray Trucks or Sled, and carefully observe and attend such Methods, as may best serve to keep said Horse or Horses or Oxen under Command, and shall have the Thill Horse by the head; and whatsoever Carter or others, undertaking to drive any Cart Dray Trucks or Sled shall during such passing through the Streets and Lanes as aforesaid, either Ride in said Cart Dray Trucks or Sled, or otherwise neglect to observe and attend the Rules prescribed in this Order; such Carter Driver or Owner of such Cart Dray Trucks or Sled shall forfeit and pay the Sum of eight shillings for every such offence.

And it is further Ordered that no Slay shall be drove in the Streets of this Town without Bells fastned to the Horses that draw the same, and whoever shall offend herein shall forfeit the sum of ten shillings for every Offence.

Great Dangers arising oftentimes from Coaches Slays Chairs and other Carriages on the Lord's days, as the People are going to, or coming from the several Churches in this Town, being driven with great Rapidity, and the Publick Worship being oftentimes much disturbed by such Carriages driving by the sides of the Churches with great force in time thereof

It is therefore Voted and Ordered that no Coach Slay Chair Chaise or other Carriage shall at such times, be driven at a greater Rate than a foot Pace, on Penalty to the Master of the Slave or Servant so driving the Sum of ten shillings.

And it is further Ordered that no Person whatsoever shall hereafter erect or set up any House of Office or Easement, within this Town (or suffer the same to continue being already standing or set up) within forty foot of any Street Lane or Highway, or the Dwelling House Shop or Well of any Neighbour unless the same be vaulted six feet deep, and sufficiently enclosed, or otherwise [396½.] Secured on Pain of forfeiting the Sum of twenty shillings for every transgression of this Order, and the like Sum of twenty shillings for every three Months it shall to continue; nor shall any Person keep any Hogg or Swine in any Hoggsty within twenty foot of any Highway Street or Lane or Alley, or the Dwelling House or Shop of any Neighbour, on Penalty of ten shillings for every Month such Hogg or Swine shall be kept and continued in such Sty, unless in such Places where the Dung or Filth runs into the Sea or Saltwater.

And it is further Ordered that whoever shall at any time hereafter use the exercise of playing or kicking of Foot-Ball within any of the Streets or Lanes within the Body of this Town shall forfeit and pay the Sum of four shillings for every such Offence; nor shall any Person throw or heave any Snow-Balls or Stones or any other thing at any Person in the Streets Lanes or Alleys of this Town or into or against any House or Shop,

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on Pain of forfeiting not more than five shillings, nor less than two shillings for each Offence, at the Discretion of the Justice before whom the Conviction shall be.

And it is further Ordered, that no Person whatsoever shall at any time hereafter Ride, or drive a Gallop, or other swift Pace, within any of the Streets Lanes or Alleys of this Town on Penalty of forfeiting the Sum of five shillings for every such Offence, and it shall be lawful for any Inhabitant of this Town to stop such Horse until the Name of the Offender be known.

And it is further Ordered that whoever shall drive through any of the Streets or Lanes of this Town any Trucks whose sides exceed the length of sixteen feet, shall forfeit and pay a fine of ten shillings for every such Offence.

And it is further Ordered that every Driver who in his Cart or Trucks shall carry more than one Ton weight at a Load, through any of the aforesaid Streets or Lanes shall pay a Fine of five shillings for every such Offence.

And it is further Ordered that the Tire of Wheels of all Carts and Trucks, that shall be drawn by more than one Horse shall be full four inches in breadth, & the Nails of the Tire to be flatt on Pain of the forfeiture of the Sum of ten shillings for every time the said Cart or Trucks shall be improved in this Town, [397.] To be paid by the Owner of the said Cart or Trucks, who shall be deemed the Offender in any of the cases aforesaid.

For the more effectual keeping Clean the Streets for the time to come.

It is Voted and Ordered that the Selectmen for the time to come do Farm the Dirt in the Streets, divided into several Wards, to the highest bidder, for a term not exceeding two Years, such Farmer to pay such Sum as shall be agreed on between him and the Selectmen, said Farmer to enjoy the Privileges, and be subject to the Duties and Penalties respecting the same Dirt herein aftermentioned.

And it is further Ordered, that in Places where the Dirt shall be Farmed, no other Person than the Farmer or his Servants shall carry off the Dirt or Mud from such Streets, unless as hereafter provided, on Penalty of the Sum of ten shillings to the respective Farmers to be paid by every Person offending.

And it is further Ordered that the Abutters shall be obliged on Notice from the Scavingers to rake up the Dirt before their Doors, and to the middle of Street within four hours after Notice on Penalty of the Sum of four shillings for every Breach of this Order.

And it is further Ordered that the Farmer shall be Obliged to carry such Dirt out of the Street within twenty fours Hours after it is so raked up, in default thereof he shall forfeit the Sum of ten shillings to the Abutter whose Dirt is not carried away, and the Abutter may on such Default, cause the same Dirt to be carried away, by any other Cart, at the Expence of the Farmer.

And it is further Ordered that in such parts of the Streets where there is no Abutter, the Farmer shall at his own Expence, cause the Dirt to be raked up and carried away, under the like Penalty

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as is before provided for not carrying away the Dirt, raked up by the Abutters.

And it is further Ordered that in Case no Person shall appear to Farm the Dirt as aforesaid, then the Scavingers shall order as often as they shall think requisite, the Abutters on the Streets to rake up the Dirt before their Doors to the middle of the Streets, and may Sell the said Dirt so Raked up, to such Person as they shall think proper, and pay the Sum they [397½.] Shall receive therefor to the Town Treasurer for the use of the Town; in case they can't otherwise procure the Dirt to be carried away they shall hire Carts at the Expence of the Town to carry the same away.

CHAPTER THE THIRD.

To prevent Mischief and Danger from Indian Negro and Molatto Slaves and Servants.

It is Voted and Ordered that no Indian Negro or Molatto Servant or Slave shall stroll unnecessarily abroad or be loitering and idling in any of the Streets or Lanes, or in the Common during the time of divine Service on the Lord's day: or after nine o'Clock at Night on any day of the Week, upon the Penalty of five shillings for each Offence to be paid either by such Indian Negro or Molatto, or else by his or her Master, at the Discretion of the Justice before whom the Conviction shall be.

CHAPTER THE FOURTH.

To prevent Nusances on the Common and to Regulate the same.

It is Voted and Ordered that no Person shall lay any dead Carcass, Carrion, Ordure, Filth, or Rubbish of any kind, on any part of the Common, or elsewhere in this Town, not being on such Persons own Land, except in such Places only as shall be by the Selectmen for the time being allowed for that purpose, on the Penalty of not less than ten shillings, nor more than twenty shillings, at the Discretion of the Justice before whom such Conviction shall be.

And it is further Ordered that no Person shall digg any Turf, Gravel, Sand, or Loam, on the Common or other Town's Land unless in such Places, and under such Limitations and Restrictions as the Selectmen for the time being shall appoint and order, under the Penalty for each Offence of not more than twenty shillings, nor less than ten shillings at the Discretion of the Justice before whom such Conviction shall be.

[398.] And it is further Ordered that no Person shall cut break down, girdle, kill or destroy any Tree, that is or shall be set out or growing on the Common, or any Land belonging to this Town, on the Penalty of twenty shillings for each Tree so cut broke girdled kill'd or destroyed.

And it is further Ordered that whoever shall presume to throw, rowl or fling the Bullet or any such like Instrument, whether made of Lead Iron Brass Stone Wood or any other matter or substance

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that may endanger the Lives or Limbs of any of His Majesty's Subjects in the Common, Training Field Highways Lanes Streets or Alleys in the Town, shall forfeit and pay a Sum not less than five shillings, or more than twenty shillings at the discretion of the Justice before whom the Conviction shall be.

And it is further Ordered that whoever shall keep any Cow or Cows going at large shall pay into the hands of such Person or Persons, as the Selectmen shall from time to time appoint to receive the same, the Sum of two shillings per Annum for each Cow, to be employed as follows vizt. one shilling & two pence thereof towards providing three Bulls to go at large on the Common from the first day of April, to the first day of November following yearly, and every year; and two Bulls to go on the Common (or as the Selectmen shall Order) from the first of November to the first of April following yearly, and every year; seven pence more thereof for paying the Cow Keeper, and the remaining three pence for paying the Person, that shall be appointed by the Selectmen, to give forth Certificates to the Owner of each Cow, shewing that they have paid the said two shillings per head, for each Cow, and any Cow that shall be found going on the Common as aforesaid, whose Owner shall not have a Certificate as aforesaid, shall be by the Cow Keeper (or other Person appointed by the Selectmen for that end) Impounded, and the Owner shall pay three shillings per head to the Impounder before the Cow or Cows be discharged, and the said Cow or Cows shall not be suffered to go on the Common untill the Owner shall have paid the said three shillings, and gained a Certificate as aforesaid.

It is also Voted and Ordered that no Ox Steer Horse Sheep or Goats shall be suffered to go at large on the Common or in the Streets (except such as are under the Care of some Person and driving to Market) on Penalty that the [398½.] Owner thereof shall forfeit and pay the Sum of three shillings for every Ox Steer Horse Sheep or Goat, that shall be found going at large as aforesaid.

And it shall be lawful for the Cow-Keeper aforesaid or any other Inhabitant to Impound and detain such Ox Steer Horse Sheep or Goat untill the Penalty aforesaid be paid.

CHAPTER THE FIFTH.

Concerning the Market and Buying and Selling Provision in the Town of Boston.

It is Voted and Ordered that Faneuil-Hall Market being open shall be under the following Regulation.

1st. That a Clerk thereof be constantly chosen Annually by the Town in March; whose Business and Duty shall be to see that the several Rules and Orders of the Town be observed and kept.

2^ly. That he shall suffer no unwholsome or putrid Meat, or otherwise unfit for Sale, to be Sold there; and if any such be Offered to Sale, in the said Market, he shall be obliged to prefer a Prosecution against the Offender.

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3ly. That the said Clerk shall not buy any Provision in said Market other than for his own Family use; and on the Conviction of the Breach of this Order, the Selectmen shall displace him, and appoint another in his Room, which Person so appointed shall continue in his said Office untill the next Town Meeting.

4thly. That every day in the year except Lord's-days and days set apart by the Government for Religious Service, shall be a Market day, the Market shall be opened by the Ringing of the Bell which shall be at Sunrise, and from the Ringing of the Bell, untill one o'Clock in the Afternoon, and every Saturday Afternoon, and every other Afternoon preceeding any day set apart by the Government for Religious Service as aforesaid untill Sun-set, shall be esteemed Market Hours.

5ly. That no Steelyards shall be allowed in said Market, nor any other than Sealed Weights.

6ly. That no Cart Team Horse Wheelbarrow that [**399**.] May incommode the Market shall be allowed to stand or be near the Entrance of the Market Place, but shall be immediately removed upon the direction of the Clerk of the Market to the Owner or Occupier of the same, under the Penalty of ten shillings.

7ly. That the Selectmen for the time being are impowred to apportion the size Marks, and number of the several Stalls, and to let them out to such Persons, and on such Terms as they shall agree.

8ly. That all Disputes arising in the Market between Buyer and Seller, concerning things bought and sold in the Market, shall be determined by the Clerk.

9ly. That no Meat shall be left in the Market after it is shut up, if any be, it shall be forfeit to the Clerk of the said Market; And if the Clerk shall wittingly Connive at the Breach of this Order he shall for every such Connivance forfeit the Sum of ten shillings.

10ly. That no Person shall buy any Provision in the said Market, with Intent to sell the same again at a greater Price before one o'Clock in the Afternoon, nor Sell any Provision so bought at a greater Price, on Penalty of the Sum of twenty shillings.

11ly. That no Huckster or other Person shall in any part of the Town buy any Provision, bro't to the Town by Land for Sale, with Intent to sell the same again before one o'Clock in the Afternoon under the like Penalty last mentioned.

CHAPTER THE SIXTH.

It is Voted and Ordered that all Carts and other Carriages of Hay as they come into Town, shall be Weighed and a Tally with the weight of the Cart & Hay be then fixed upon it, and that the Cart or Carriage upon its Return be tared, and the Weight thereof marked on it.

And it is further Ordered that a suitable Person be from time to time appointed by the Selectmen, as they shall think fit to take Care that the Engine for weighing of Hay be kept in good Repair, and to see the weight of all Hay thus brought to Market, and to Tally the same, and mark the Carriages on their Return as aforesaid. And that the sd. Person [**399½**.] Shall be under Oath to do Justice

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between Buyer and Seller, & shall Attend from Sunrising to Sunsetting, and shall make an Entry in a Book to be by him kept for that purpose of all the Hay he weighs.

And it is further Ordered that there be allowed to the Person for every Load of Hay so weighed eight fifteenths of a penny for each hundred of Hay to be paid by the Person who buys the same, or in case of his Absence at the time of weighing then to be paid by the Importer, who shall be Reimbursed by the Buyer.

And it is further Ordered that if any Person Inhabitant of the Town of Boston aforesaid, shall buy any Hay thus brought to Market, without the same be first weighed as above, he or they shall forfeit and pay the Sum of twenty shillings for every Load or Parcel so bought.

It is Voted and Ordered that the Selectmen of the Town shall from time to time appoint one or more Common Cryers. And no Person except so appointed shall presume to Act as Cryer for others on the Penalty of five shillngs for each Offence, and every Person appointed Cryer shall keep a true and perfect List of all things by him Cried and the Names of the Persons who ordered him to cry the same, and give in a true Copy thereof to the Town Clerk once a Month, on the Penalty of ten shillings for each Offence. And the Selectmen shall from time to time appoint the Fees of the said Cryer, which he shall not exceed on Penalty of five shillings for each Offence.

Great Complaint being made of many Persons Washing themselves in Publick & frequented Places to the Great Reproach of Modesty and good Manners.

It is Voted and Ordered that no Person whosoever above the Age of twelve Years, shall in less than an Hour after Sun-set undress themselves and go into Water within ten Rods of any Dwelling House in this Town, at that time Inhabited, nor shall any Person being in the Water, swim to such parts of the Town, as to be plainly within Sight of any Dwelling House, Inhabited as aforesaid, on pain of [**400.**] Forfeiting for each of these Offences the Sum of ten shillings, and for a second Offence the Sum of twenty shillings.

It is Voted and Ordered that every Householder or others, who are commonly known to make use of any of the Pumps Wells or Cisterns standing or being in any Ground Streets or Highways belonging to this Town, for their supply of Water for their ordinary Occasions, every such Person shall allow and pay unto such of the Neighbourhood, whom the Selectmen shall appoint to receive the same such proportionable Sum or Sums of Money as the Selectmen for the time being shall assess him or her to pay, for keeping such Well Cistern or Pump in Repair, and to be Employed to the said Use; on Pain, that every Person who shall neglect or refuse the payment thereof for the space of six Days after the same is demanded, shall forfeit and pay double the Value of said Sum, to the use of the Poor of this Town.

It is Voted and Ordered that all Penalties and Forfeitures arising by the beforegoing By Laws, not otherwise expressly disposed of shall be as the the Law directs to the use of the Poor of the Town; and whoever shall prosecute to Effect any of the Breaches

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thereof, shall be intitled to receive one half as much as shall be recovered for the use of the Poor, out of the Treasury of the Town to his own Use.

It is Voted and Ordered that where any Negro Indian or Mollatto Slave, shall be the Offender against any of the foregoing By-Laws, his Owner shall pay the Fine or Forfeiture, unless he shall choose to deliver up his said Slave to be Corrected; in which Case the Justice before whom the Conviction shall be, shall Order such Slave to be Whipped at the House of Correction not exceeding twenty Stripes, nor less than five according to the nature and aggravation of such Offence.

It is hereby Voted Ordered & Declared that all By-Laws heretofore made in this Town, not at this present Meeting Voted, be and hereby are Repealed and made Void.

[**400½.**] Voted that the Selectmen be, and they hereby are desired and Impowred to present all the By-Laws & Orders of the Town now passed, to the next Court of General Sessions of the Peace, to be held for the County of Suffolk, for their Allowance and Approbation.

Voted that the Selectmen be desired to Print said By-Laws and Orders, after they are Approved of by the Court of Sessions, on the best Terms they can.

Voted that the Thanks of the Town be, and hereby is given to Benjamin Prat Esqr. the Moderator of this Meeting, for transacting the Business thereof.

Then the Meeting was Dismiss'd.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Boston legally qualifyed and warned in Public Town Meeting Assembled at Faneuil-Hall on Tuesday the first day of November AD 1757.

The Warrant for calling the Meeting Read.

Benjamin Prat Esqr. was chose Moderator of this Meeting.

The Town took into Consideration the Article in the Warrant. vizt. to determine what may be futher necessary to be done relating to the By-Laws and Orders of the Town, and thereupon Voted that Thomas Greene Esqr. M^{r}. Oxenbridge Thacher & M^{r}. William Story be & they hereby are appointed a Committee to enquire into the Exceptions taken by the Court of General Sessions of the Peace to the By-Laws and Orders of the Town pass'd at their Meeting the first of August last, and presented to s^{d}. [**401.**] Court for their Approbation, consider of said Exceptions and Report their Opinion thereon at the intended Adjournment of this Meeting.

The Committee appointed the 10th. of May last on the Petition of John Hill Esqr. made Report that they had fully heard the Petitioner, and gave it as their Opinion that it will not not be proper for the Town to grant the Prayer of said Petition or do any thing concerning it, but that said Petition be Dismissed, which being Read, Voted that said Report be Accepted, and that said Petition be Dismissed.

The Town took into Consideration the Article in the Warrant vizt. whether the Town will Purchase the Tickets in Lottery N^{o}. Three

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that remain unsold as the time allowed by Law for drawing the same is near expiring, and after some Debate thereon, the following Question was put, "whether the Town will take to their Account, and at their Risque all such Tickets in said Lottery as shall remain unsold the 28th. of November instant at Night," and it Passed in the Affirmative.

Samuel Grant Esqr. Mr. Thomas Hill Joshua Henshaw & Joseph Jackson Esqrs. Mr. Thomas Cushing Mr. Samuel Hewes & Mr. John Scollay appointed by an Act of the General Court Managers of Boston Lotteries for raising Monies to Pave & Repair the Neck, presented their Accounts for Lottery Number Two, drawn in February last & thereupon It was Voted that Mr. Royal Tyler, Mr. William Cooper & Thomas Greene Esqr. be a Committee to examine said Accompts and Report thereon as soon as may be.

The Petition of Alexander Hunt of Boston Gentn. setting forth, that the Town stand seized of a Peice of Land of two rods wide adjoining to the Petitioners Land near Fort Hill, which at present is of very little benefit to the Town, nor is it probable that it will ever be any great Advantage, and as it bounds on the Petitioner's Land he would purchase the same if the Town incline to Sell it. on such reasonable terms as may be agreed upon. which being Read. It was Voted that the Selectmen be & hereby are fully authorized and impowred to Sell said Land to such Person as will give most for the same & in the [401½.] Name and behalf of the Town to give and execute a good and legal Deed thereof to the Purchaser.

Voted that this Meeting be and hereby is Adjourned to Monday the 12th. day of December next at nine o'Clock in the forenoon.

Monday December 12th, 1757 The Town meet according to Adjournment.

The Committee appointed the first of November to examine the Accompts of the Managers of Boston Lottery No. Two Reported that they had Examined said Accots. & find them just and right Cast, whereupon It was Voted that said Report be accepted, and that said Managers be paid the Sums mentioned in their respective Accompts.

The Committee appointed the first day of November last to consider of the By-Laws of the Town, and of the Exceptions made by the Court of Sessions thereto, Reported that they have attended that Service, and Mr. Justice Dana was so kind as to Communicate to the Committee the several Exceptions aforesaid. The Committee began with the Consideration of said Exceptions where the Town left off at their Meeting, and have Agreed to sundry Amendments in the same, and have desired the Town Clerk to draw a fair Copy of the same By-laws, with the Alterations made by the Town and those since agreed to by the Committee, which Copy they now presented, and Report that the same be pass'd upon anew at this Meeting. Whereupon said Laws as altered were openly and distinctly Read over, and after due Consideration thereof, the same was Voted Chapter by Chapter to be observed and kept by all Persons inhabiting within this Town (untill the same or any of them shall be repealed, and made void) under the

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several & respective Pains & Penalties to them or any of them annexed and prescribed.

The s^d^. By-Laws and Orders as now Voted and Pass'd are as follows Viz^t^.

[402.] CHAP: 1st. *For preventing Danger by Fire in the Town of Boston.*

1. It is Voted and Ordered that the Selectmen for the time being upon Complaint made to them, or otherwise upon their own knowledge, of any defective Chimnies in this Town shall from time to time, take effectual Care to have the same viewed and surveyed by proper Persons by them for that purpose to be appointed, and if upon the view and survey said Chimnies shall be found so defective as in their Judgment to be dangerous to be used on Account of Fire, the Selectmen shall make a Record thereof, and of the Particulars of the Defect or Defects, and give to the Occupier of the House or Tenement to which the Defective Chimney belongs a Copy of said Entry, with warning not to make any Fire in such Chimney 'till said Defect or Defects are cured, either by amending repairing or rebuilding said Chimney, thereupon if the Occupant of such Tenement shall suffer a Fire to be made & kept in said Chimney, before said Chimney be cured of such defect or defects, such Occupant shall forfeit and pay the Sum of five shillings for every day in which a Fire shall be so made and kept.

And if the Occupant of any House or Tenement shall neglect or refuse for the space of twenty four hours after request to suffer such Persons appointed as aforesaid to view & survey any Chimney suspected of being defective as aforesaid such Occupant shall forfeit and pay for such Offence the Sum of fifteen shillings, and so from time to time the same Sum for every such Offence, as often as the same shall be committed.

2. And it is further Ordered that the Selectmen of the Town for the time being be hereby directed and impowred from time to time to appoint one or more suitable Persons to be sweepers of Chimnies within this Town, whose Wages for their Work shall not exceed the Rates hereafter mentioned vizt.

For each Chimney of five Stories high one shilling & four pence.

For each Chimney of four Stories high one shilling & two pence.

For each Chimney of three Stories high one shilling.

And other common Chimnies eight pence.

All all Kitchen Chimnies that are above the Tops [402½.] of the House they belong to in proportion to the heighth of the House at the Rate above.

3. And it is further Ordered that if any Person who is not so appointed as aforesaid shall presume either by himself or Servant to undertake the Sweeping of any Chimney in this Town, except such Chimney or Chimnies as are under his or their own Improvement, such Person shall forfeit and pay the Sum of ten shillings for every such Offence.

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4. And it is further Ordered that all Persons so appointed by the Selectmen to be the Undertakers of Chimney Sweeping shall be obliged within forty eight hours, after notice given either by themselves, or some other Person, duly to attend the Sweeping of such Chimney on Penalty of forfeiting ten shillings for every such neglect.

5. And it is further Ordered that upon Complaint made to any of the Selectmen either by the Chimney Sweepers, or by any other of the Inhabitants of this Town against any Person or Persons neglecting to have their Chimnies swept being foul, that in every such Case the Selectmen or any two of them are hereby impowred to inspect and view such Chimnies complained of as aforesaid, and if they judge the said Chimnies or any of them unsafe to make or keep Fire therein, by reason of their being foul & want of Sweeping, and signify the same to the Person or Persons then in possession of the Tenement to which such Chimney doth belong, that then and in every such Case the Occupier of every such House or Tenement shall forfeit and pay the Sum of five shillings for every day in which Fire shall be kept in such Chimney untill the same shall be sufficiently Swept. And if the Occupant of any House or Tenement shall neglect or refuse for the space of twenty four hours after request to suffer the Selectmen aforesaid to view and survey any Chimnies suspected of being foul as aforesaid, such Occupant shall forfeit and pay for such Offence the Sum of fifteen shillings and so from time to time the same Sum for every such Offence as often as the same shall be Committed.

[**403.**] 6. And it is further Ordered that if any Chimney shall take Fire & Blaze out at the Top thrô foulness or for want Sweeping the Occupier of the Tenement shall forfeit & pay the Sum of twenty shillings; unless it shall happen within forty two days after said Chimney shall have been swept, and then and in such Case the Person who last Swept the same, or in Case of his being a Servant or Slave, his Master or Owner shall forfeit & pay the aforesaid twenty shillings.

7. And it is further Ordered that no Person shall presume hereafter to carry Fire in this Town abroad, or in & through the open Air from any House or Place, to any other House or Place, but in a warming Pan, or other safe Vessell well Covered, so as to Secure the Fire from the Wind, and from being Scattered in the Way; or in the Streets & Lanes, or on the Buildings on the Penalty and Forfeiture of two shillings.

8. And it is further Ordered that whoever shall kindle or make or be aiding and assisting in making or kindling in the open Air within two Rods of any House Warehouse Wood-Pile or any other Combustible matter, subject to take Fire (except in Shipwrights Building Yards, Coopers & Ropemakers works, a careful Person, standing by to watch the same) shall forfeit & pay the Sum of twelve shillings.

Provided the Order last aforesaid, shall not be understood to debarr any Tradesman or others from kindling Charcoal in a Pot or Pan out of Doors near his House or Shop at any time during the daylight, in case some careful Person shall stand by the same

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to watch it as long as it shall continue in the open Street but not otherwise.

9. And it is further Ordered that no Coopers within this Town shall Fire or burn their Casks in any Shop Warehouse or other Place than in a sufficient Brick or Stone Chimney made convenient for that use on Penalty of forfeiting the Sum of ten shillings for every Offence contrary to this Order.

10. And it is further Ordered that no Person shall henceforth make or fire any Lime Kiln, or erect or burn any Brick Kiln but in such Place & Places as the [**403½.**] Selectmen for the time being shall approve and allow of on Penalty of the Sum of twenty shillings for every transgression of this Order.

CHAP: 2. *Concerning the Streets & Lanes Nusances therein, and the Dirt thereof.*

1. It is Voted and Ordered that no Person henceforth shall break or digg up the Ground in any of the Streets & Lanes of this Town on any occasion without the leave & approbation of two at least of the Selectmen for the time being, and whoever shall offend herein shall forfeit the Sum of twenty shillings: and whoever shall obtain such leave shall cause the holes in the Ground to be every Night carefully Covered so as no Person walking the Street may be in danger of falling in, and shall also within such time as the said Selectmen shall appoint cause the whole to be repaired and amended, on Penalty of either of those two last mentioned Offences, of twenty shillings, these several Penalties to be forfeited by the Person by whose direction the Ground is so broke up.

2. And it is further Ordered that no Person whoever shall carry any Dirt Dung Garbidge Carcass Carrion Shavings Rubbish or Soil from their Houses Shops or Yards to lay the same in the streets or Lanes of this Town on penalty of four shillings for every dead Carcass or Carrion so laid, and three shillings for any other Dirt or Annoyance that shall lye above the Space of six hours.

3. And it is further Ordered that when any of the Inhabitants of this Town shall be building or repairing their Houses, or digging Cellars Wells or Vaults, they shall carefully lay their Timber and other Materials so as shall be no obstruction to Carts and other Conveyances passing by and shall remove all the Rubbish and Dirt brought out; and no Timber so brought or Dirt & Rubbish so carried out shall in any Case remain for the space of twenty four hours in any part of the Street without leave from two Selectmen at the least, nor longer without the leave of the major part of the Selectmen, and the [**404.**] Person building or repairing or digging shall be deemed the Offender in any of these Particulars, and shall for each Offence forfeit the Sum of ten shillings.

4. And it is further Ordered that henceforth no Cart Dray Trucks or Sled, drawn by either Horse or Horses, Horse & Oxen shall be suffered to pass through any of the Streets and Lanes of this Town but with a sufficient Driver, who shall during such Passage keep with his said Cart Dray Trucks or Sled, and carefully

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observe & attend such Methods as may best Serve to keep said Horse or Horses or Oxen under Command, and shall have the Thill-horse by the head; and whatsoever Carter or others undertaking to drive any Cart Dray Trucks or Sled, shall during such passing through the Streets and Lanes as aforesaid either ride in said Cart Dray Trucks or Sled, or otherwise neglect to observe and attend the Rules prescribed in this Order, such Carter Driver or Owner of such Cart Dray Trucks or Sled shall forfeit and pay the Sum of eight shillings for every such Offence.

5. And it is further Ordered that no Slay shall be drove in the Streets of this Town without Bells fastned to the Horses that draw the same, and whoever shall offend herein shall forfeit the Sum of ten shillings for every Offence.

Great Dangers arising oftentimes from Coaches Slays Chairs and other Carriages on the Lord's days as the People are going to or coming from the several Churches in this Town, being driven with great Rapidity, and the Public Worship being oftentimes much disturbed by such Carriages driving by the sides of the Churches with great force in time thereof.

6. It is therefore Voted and Ordered that no Coach Slay Chair Chaise or other Carriage shall at such time be driven at a greater rate than a foot pace, on Penalty of the Sum of ten shillings, to be paid by the Person driving, or if he be a Servant or Slave by his master or Mistress.

7. And it is further Ordered that no Person whatsoever shall hereafter erect or set up any House of Office or Easement within this Town (or suffer the same to continue being already standing or set up) within forty foot of any Street Lane or highway or the Dwelling House Shop or Well of any Neighbour, unless [**404½.**] The same be vaulted six feet deep and sufficiently enclosed or otherwise secured on Pain of forfeiting the Sum of twenty shillings for every transgression of this Order, and the like Sum of twenty shillings for every three Months it shall so continue, nor shall any Person keep any Hogg or Swine in any Hogsty within twenty foot of any Highway Street or Lane or Alley, or of the Dwelling House or Shop of any Neighbour on Penalty of ten shillings for every Month such Hog or Swine shall be kept or continued in such Sty; unless such Sty be within twenty foot of the Saltwater, and the Filth thereof runs directly through the Keepers own Land into the Saltwater.

8. And it is further Ordered that whoever shall at any time hereafter use the exercise of playing or kicking of Foot-Ball within any of the Streets or Lanes within the Body of this Town shall forfeit and pay a Sum not more than four shillings, nor less than one shilling for every such Offence, nor shall any Person unnecessarily throw or heave any Snow Balls or Stones or any other thing in the Streets Lanes or Alleys of this Town on Pain of forfeiting not more than four shillings nor less than one shilling for each Offence at the discretion of the Justice before whom the Conviction shall be.

9. And it is further Ordered that no Person whatsoever shall at any time hereafter Ride or drive a Gallop or other swift Pace

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within any of the Streets Lanes or Alleys of this Town, on Penalty of forfeiting the Sum of five shillings for every such Offence.

10. And it is further Ordered that whoever shall drive through any of the Streets or Lanes of this Town any Trucks whose sides exceed the length of sixteen feet, shall forfeit and pay a Fine of ten shillings for every such Offence.

11. And it is further Ordered that every Driver who in his Cart or Trucks, shall carry more than one Ton weight, except the same be one Cable, at a load, through any of the aforesaid Streets or Lanes shall pay a fine of five shillings for every such Offence.

[**405.**] 12. And it is further Ordered, that the Tire of Wheels of all Carts and Trucks that shall be drawn by more than one Horse shall be full four inches in breadth, and the Nails of the Tire to be flatt, on Pain of forfeiting the Sum of ten shillings for every time the said Cart or Trucks shall be improved in this Town, to be paid by the Owner of said Cart or Trucks, who shall be deemed the Offender in any of the Cases aforesaid.

CHAP: 8d. *For the more effectual keeping clean the Streets for the time to come.*

1. It is Voted and Ordered that the Selectmen for the time to come do Farm the Dirt in the Streets divided into several Wards to the highest bidder for a Term not exceeding two Years, such Farmer to pay such Sum as shall be agreed on between him and the Selectmen, said Farmer to enjoy the Privileges, and to be subject to the Duties and Penalties respecting the same Dirt herein aftermentioned.

2. And it is further Ordered that in Places where the Dirt shall be Farmed, no other Person than the Farmer or his Servants shall carry off the Dirt or Mud from such Streets unless as hereafter provided on Penalty of the Sum of ten shillings to the respective Farmers to be paid by every Person offending.

3. And it is further Ordered that the Abutters shall be obliged on Notice from the Scavingers to rake up the Dirt before their doors, and to the middle of the Street within twenty four hours after Notice on Penalty of the Sum of four shillings for every breach of this Order.

4. And it is further Ordered that the Farmer shall be obliged to carry such Dirt out of the Street, within twenty four Hours after it is so raked up, in default thereof he shall forfeit the Sum of ten shillings to the Abutter whose Dirt is not carried away, & the Abutter may on such Default cause the same Dirt to be carried away by any other Cart, at the Expence of the Farmer.

5. And it is further Ordered that in such parts of the Streets where there is no Abutter, the Farmer shall at his own expence cause the Dirt to be raked up and carried away under the Penalty as is before provided for not carrying away the Dirt raked up by the Abutters.

[**405½.**] 6. And it is further Ordered that in Case no Person shall appear to Farm the Dirt as aforesaid, then the Scavingers shall order as often as they shall think requisite, the Abutters on

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the Streets to rake up the Dirt before their doors to the middle of the Street, and may Sell the same Dirt so raked up to such Person as they shall think proper, and pay the Sum they shall receive therefor to the Town Treasurer for the use of the Town; and in case they cannot otherwise procure the Dirt to be carried away they shall hire Carts at the expence of the Town to carry the same away.

CHAP: 4th. *To prevent Mischief and Danger from Indian Negro & Molatto Slaves & Servants.*

It is Voted and Ordered that no Indian Negro or Molatto Slave or Servant shall stroll unnecessarily abroad or be loitering and ideling in any of the Streets and Lanes or on the Common on the Lord's day, or after nine o'Clock at Night on any day of the Week, upon the Penalty of five shillings for each Offence to be paid either by such Indian Negro or Molatto, or else by his or her Master or Mistress, at the discretion of the Justice before whom the Conviction shall be.

CHAP: 5th. *To prevent Nusances on the Common and to Regulate the same.*

1. It is Voted and Ordered that no Person shall lay any dead Carcass, Carrion Ordure Filth or Rubbish of any kind on any part of the Common, or elswhere in this Town not being on such Persons own Land, except in such Places only as shall be by the Selectmen for the time being allowed for that purpose on the Penalty of not less than ten shillings, nor more than twenty shillings at the discretion of the Justice before whom the Conviction shall be.

2. And it is further Ordered that no Person shall digg any Turf Gravel Sand or Loam on the Common or other Town's Land, unless in such Places, and under such Limitations & Restrictions, as the Selectmen for the [**406.**] Time being shall appoint and order on the Penalty for each Offence of not more than twenty shillings nor less than ten shillings, at the discretion of the Justice before whom the Conviction shall be.

3. And it is further Ordered that no Person shall cut break down girdle kill or destroy any Tree that is or shall be set out or growing on the Common or any Land belonging to this Town on the Penalty of twenty shillings for each Tree so cut broke girdled kill'd or destroyed.

4. And it is further Ordered that whoever shall presume to throw rowl or fling the Bullet or any other such Instrument, whether made of Lead Iron Brass Stone Wood or any other matter or substance that may endanger the Lives or Limbs of any of His Majesty's Subjects, in the Common Training Field Highways Lanes Streets or Alleys in the Town shall forfeit and pay a Sum not less than five shillings nor more than twenty shillings at the discretion of the Justice before whom the Conviction shall be.

5. And it is further Ordered that whoever shall keep any Cow

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or Cows going at large shall pay into the hands of such Person or Persons as the Selectmen shall from time to time appoint to receive the same, the Sum of two shillings p Annum for each Cow to be employed as follows viz' one shilling & two pence thereof towards providing three Bulls to go at large on the Common from the first day of April to the first day of November following yearly and every Year, and two Bulls to go on the Common (or as the Selectmen shall order) from the first of November to the first of April following yearly and every Year; seven pence more thereof for paying the Cow Keeper, and the remaining three pence for paying the Person that shall be appointed by the Selectmen to give forth Certificates to the Owner of each Cow, shewing that they have paid the said two shillings per head for each Cow, & any Cow that shall be found going on the Common as aforesaid whose Owner shall not have a Certificate as aforesaid, shall be by the Cow Keeper (or other Person appointed by the Selectmen for that end) Impownded, and the Owner shall pay three shillings per head to the Impownder before the Cow or Cows be discharged, and the said Cow or Cows shall not be suffered to go on the Common untill the Owner shall have paid said 3/ & gained A Certificate as aforesaid.

[**406½.**] 6. It is also Voted and Ordered that no Ox Steer Horse Sheep or Goats shall be suffered to go at large on the Commons or in the Streets (except such as are under the Care of some Person and driving to Market) on Penalty that the Owner thereof shall forfeit and pay the Sum of three shillings for every Ox Steer Horse Sheep or Goat that shall be found going at large as aforesaid.

7. And it shall be lawful for the Cow Keeper aforesaid, or any other Inhabitant of this Town to Impownd and Detain such Ox Steer Horse Sheep or Goat untill the Penalty aforesaid be paid.

CHAP: 6th. *Concerning the Market and Buying & Selling Provision in the Town of Boston.*

It is Voted and Ordered that Faneuil-Hall Market being open shall be under the following Regulation.

1. That a Clerk thereof be constantly chosen Annually by the Town in March whose Buisness and Duty shall be to see that the several Rules & Orders of the Town be observed and kept.

2. That he shall suffer no unwholesome or Putrid Meat or otherwise unfit for Sale to be sold there; and if any such be offered to Sale, in the said Market he shall be obliged to preferr a prosecution against the Offender.

3. That the said Clerk shall not Buy any Provision in said Market other than for his own Family use, and on the Conviction of the breach of this Order the Selectmen shall displace him, and appoint another in his Room, which Person so appointed shall continue in his said Office untill the next Town Meeting.

4. That every day in the Year, except Lord's days, and days set apart by the Government for Religious Service, shall be a Market day, the Market shall be opened by the Ringing of the Bell, which

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shall be at Sunrise, and from the Ringing of the Bell untill one o'Clock in the Afternoon & every Saturday Afternoon, and every other Afternoon preceeding any day set apart by the Government for Religious Service as aforesaid, untill Sunset, shall be esteemed Market Hours.

5. That no Steelyards be allowed in said Market or other than [407.] Sealed Weights.

6. That no Cart Team Horse Wheelbarrow that may incommode the Market shall be allowed to stand or be near the Entrance of the Market place, but shall be immediately removed upon the direction of the Clerk of the Market to the Owner or Occupier of the same under the Penalty of ten Shillings.

7. That the Selectmen for the time being are impowred to apportion the Size marks, and Number the several Stalls & to let them out to such Persons & on such Terms, as they shall Agree.

8. That all Disputes arising in the Market between Buyer and Seller, concerning things bought and Sold in the Market shall be determined by the Clerk.

9. That no Meat shall be left in the Market after it is shut up, if any be it shall be forfeit to the Clerk of the said Market, and if the Clerk shall wittingly Connive at the Breach of this Order, he shall for every such Connivance forfeit the Sum of ten shillings.

10. That no Person before one o'Clock in the afternoon shall buy any Provision in the said Market with intent to Sell the same, at a greater Price nor Sell any Provision so bought at a greater Price on Penalty of the Sum of twenty shillings for each Offence.

11. That no Huckster shall before one o'Clock in the Afternoon in any part of the Town buy any Provision bro't to Town by Land or over the Ferries for Sale, with intent to Sell the same again under the Penalty of twenty shillings for each Offence.

CHAP: 7th. 1. It is Voted and Ordered that all Carts and other Carriages of Hay as they come into Town shall be weighed & a Tally with the weight of the cart and Hay be then fixed upon it, and that the Cart or Carriage upon it's Return be Tared, and the weight thereof marked on it.

2. And it is further Ordered that a suitable Person be from time to time appointed by the Selectmen as they shall think fit to take Care that the Engine for weighing of Hay be kept in good Repair, & to see the weight of all Hay thus bro't to Market and to Tally the same, and mark the Carriages on their Return as aforesaid: and that the said Person shall be under Oath to do Justice between Buyer & Seller, and shall attend from Sunrising to [407½.] Sunsetting, and shall make an Entry in a Book to be by him kept for that purpose of all the Hay he weighs.

3. And it is further Ordered that there be allowed to the Person for every Load of Hay so weighed eight fifteenths of a penny for each hundred of Hay, to be paid by the Person who Buys the same, or in case of his Absence at the time of weighing then to be paid by the Importer who shall be reimbursed by the Buyer.

4. And it is further Ordered that if any Person Inhabitant of the Town of Boston aforesaid, shall Buy any Hay thus brought

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to Market, without the same be first weighed as above, he or they shall forfeit and pay the Sum of twenty shillings for every Load or Parcel of Hay so bought.

5. It is Voted and Ordered that the Selectmen of the Town shall from time to time appoint one or more Common Cryers, and no Person except so appointed shall presume to Act as Cryer for others on the Penalty of five shillings for each Offence; and every Person so appointed Cryer shall keep a true & perfect List of all Things by him Cried, and the Names of the Persons who ordered him to Cry the same, and give in a true Copy thereof to the Town Clerk once a Month on the Penalty of ten shillings for each neglect: and the Selectmen shall from time to time appoint the Fees of the said Cryer which he shall not exceed on Penalty of five shillings for each Offence.

Great Complaint being made of many Persons washing themselves in public and frequented Places to the Great Reproach of Modesty & good Manners.

6. It is Voted and Ordered that no Person whosoever above the Age of twelve Years shall in the daytime, or in one hour after Sunset undress themselves and go into Water within ten rods of any dwelling House in the Town at that time Inhabited, nor shall any Person being in the Water Swim within ten rods of any Dwelling House Inhabited as aforesaid on Pain of forfeiting for each Offence the Sum of ten shillings, and for a second Offence the Sum of twenty shillings.

[**408.**] 7. It is Voted and Ordered that every Householder and other Persons who are commonly known to make use of any of the Pumps Wells or Cisterns standing or being in any Ground Streets or Highways belonging to this Town for their supply of Water for their ordinary Occasions, every such Person shall allow & pay unto such of the Neighbourhood whom the Selectmen shall appoint to receive the same such proportionable Sum or Sums of Money as the Selectmen for the time being shall assess him or her to pay for keeping such Well Cistern or Pump in Repair, and to be employed to the said use, on pain that every such Person who shall neglect or refuse the payment thereof for the space of six days after the same is demanded shall forfeit and pay double the value of said Sum to the use of the Poor of this Town.

8. It is Voted and Ordered that all Penalties & Forfeitures arising by the beforegoing By-Laws not otherwise expressly dispos'd of shall be as the Law directs to the use of the Poor of the Town; and whoever shall prosecute to effect any of the Breaches thereof shall be intitled to receive one half as much as shall be recovered for the use of the Poor out of the Treasury of the Town to his own use.

9. It is Voted and Ordered that where any Negro Indian or Molatto Slave shall be the Offender against any of the foregoing By-Laws, his Owner shall pay the Fine or Forfeiture unless he shall choose to deliver up his said Slave to be Corrected, in which Case the Justice before whom the Conviction shall be, shall Order said Slave to be Whipped at the House of Correction not exceed-

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ing twenty Stripes nor less than five, according to the Nature & Aggravation of such Offence.

Voted that the Order or Vote passed by the Town at their Public Meeting the first day of August last, for Repealing and making Void all By-Laws made & pass'd by the Town before that time, be and hereby is Repealed disannulled & made Void.

Voted that the Selectmen present the aforegoing By-Laws and Orders of the Town, as they are now passed Chapter by Chapter, to the Court of General Sessions of the Peace to be held at Boston within & for the County of Suffolk on the first Tuesday of January next, for their Allowance & Approbation.

Then the Meeting was Dismiss'd.

[This point is taken as a convenient one for closing the present volume, although it does not complete the fourth book of the Town Records.

W. H. W.]

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